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THE  
ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW  
OF  
Social and Industrial Questions.

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"S'il y a une question au monde dans laquelle il soit nécessaire de voir clair et de ne pas se payer de mots, c'est celle-ci ; c'est une question de vie ou de mort." ('L'Ouvrière.' By Jules Simon. Page ix.)

"A certain man hath said, 'Withstand the beginning ; after remedies come too late.'" (Thomas à Kempis, Lib. i. cap. 13.)

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THE  
ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.

(NEW SERIES.)

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No. XCIII.—JANUARY 15TH, 1881.

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ART. I.—THE HARD WORK OF SCHOOL  
BOARDS.

WE are often told that the physical strength of women is not equal to the continuous strain of public work, and that they would break down under it; and it is asserted triumphantly, that this is one reason *inter alia*, why Government employments and public offices are kept out of their hands. On the other hand, as an actual fact curiously counterbalancing this statement, we find that if by any chance, by special fitness which cannot be denied, or, as in the case of the School Boards, the forcible determination of the body of electors to place them in a position of public trust, they are ranked with men as public servants, an exceptionally large share of work devolves on them. The willing horse proverbially does the best part of the pulling. The nine ladies who were elected on the London School Board at the end of 1879, received at once the compliment due to their feminine abilities by being placed on the sub-committees in larger proportion than their numbers would have led us to anticipate. They were evidently expected to work hard, and they have nobly redeemed the expectation.

The London School Board has just issued its Report of Board and Committee meetings during the year ending last November 30th, with the number of attendances

of each member. In this Report the names of all the nine ladies show creditably, but one lady, Miss Davenport-Hill, the choice of the City of London, is not only at the head of the whole list, but far ahead of the others. We understand that if the Board had not been deprived by death of the valued services of Mr. Rogers, his name would have been considerably ahead of hers; but as the present list stands, it is a marked instance of the steadiness of the work women are able to perform. Out of 324 times that she has been summoned to attend at Board and Committee meetings, she has been present 295 times, or ten times out of eleven. Of Miss Davenport-Hill's 295 meetings, 39 have been at the Board, 109 on the School Management Sub-Committee (viz.: 34 committee meetings, 30 rota., 22 store and books, 2 copy-books, 19 needlework, and 2 local management), 17 have been on the Bye-Laws Sub-Committee, 129 on her chief work, the Industrial Schools Sub-Committee (viz.: 21 committee meetings, 33 rota., 20 as Manager at Brentwood, 20 management of Upton House, 22 management of the Shaftesbury, 7 sub-management of Brentwood, and six on other matters. Mrs. Westlake has been summoned 315 times, and has attended 243; 36 being Board Meetings, 115 School management, and 92 Industrial School meetings; Mrs. Webster has been summoned 201 times, and has attended 118; Miss Richardson has been summoned 336 times, and has attended 220; Mrs. Surr has been summoned 307 times, and attended 107, and the other ladies have been almost equally assiduous. Two ladies and three gentlemen have attended every Board meeting. When it is remembered that this Report does not include attendance at divisional committee meetings, or meetings of managers of Board-Schools, nor the attendance of members who are specially summoned to a Committee Meeting if they do not belong to that Committee, some idea may be gathered of the enormous burden of work which the members of this great educational parliament are expected to take upon their shoulders in addition to school visiting, consultations with teachers or parents, and other duties.

Statistics such as these point a moral which cannot be

too often insisted on. They show that women may be as capable as men of enduring the continuous strain of severe mental toil; that some of them, at least, are specially qualified for public administrative employment; and that when they fairly undertake the responsibilities of office they will bring to their task an equal amount of steadiness and thoroughness.

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## ART. II.—GEORGE ELLIOT.

THE announcement of the death of one who had for many years held the rank of the greatest living English novelist, threw a gloom over the Christmas week, for a much larger circle than those, numerous as they were, who in her lost a dear and revered friend. Few knew even that she was ill, till the news came that the gifted pen that had never seemed weary of creating, and that with every new creation opened fresh insight into human nature, and profound philosophical speculation, was laid aside for ever.

So many memoirs have appeared of Mrs. Cross within the last month, that it is unnecessary to give more than the briefest record of her literary career. Mrs. Cross, whose maiden name was Marion Evans, was born in 1819, in those Midland counties which she so deeply loved, and the peculiarities of which, as Loamshire, she so faithfully reproduced in her best novels. Her earliest literary labour, as is well known, was the translation of German metaphysical works, of which Strauss's *Life of Jesus* appeared in 1846, and Feuerbach's *Essence of Christianity* in 1853. She was also on the staff of the *Westminster Review*. She was already past youth when she entered on the path by which she was to reach her undisputed place among the chief thinkers and writers of this century. The "*Scenes from Clerical Life*," appeared in Blackwood, in 1857; "*Adam Bede*," which at once established her fame as a novelist, was published

in 1859, and "The Mill on the Floss," in 1860. "Silas Marner," followed in 1861, "Romola," in 1863, and "Felix Holt," three years later. As a poet, George Elliot was less popular, and the "Spanish Gipsy," though containing many thoughtful and graceful lines, never had the success of her prose works. "Middlemarch," and "Daniel Deronda," amply maintained her reputation for bold creativeness, accurate observation, and philosophic analysis, and in her more recently published work, "Impressions of Theophrastus Such," she entered on a new mine of thought which, had her life been spared, she might have explored deeply.

Great as she was as a novelist, to many her works were far more than novels, for as a philosophical writer she exercised a most powerful spiritual influence over a large circle of readers. The main teaching of her novels was the moral necessity of the renunciation of self. Egotism is to her the unforgiveable fault, the "little speck within the fruit," which will communicate its decay all around. Though she never took any direct part in the cause of the educational and social progress of women, she has done them service in the noble ideals of women with which her books abound. She was a richly cultured woman; science and philosophy, history, languages, and art, were all at her command. Her love of nature was most keen, and lasted to the end of her life, and her comprehension of character is another proof of the wide range of her sympathy. A mistress of humour, as the creation of Mrs. Poyser, Bartle Massey, Dolly Winthrop, and the other rustics in "Silas Marner" suffice to show, she yet toiled to perfect every detail of her writings with that patience without which genius is of so little avail.

To the large circle of private friends who revered her, Mrs. Cross has left a memory of kindness and sympathy only to be equalled by the extent of her knowledge, the acuteness of her observation, and the width of her culture. Regretted as a writer she will be wherever the English tongue is read, but only those who knew her personally, knew, to use Dr. Sadler's words pronounced over her grave in Highgate, of "the gentleness and delicate womanly grace and charm

which were combined with that breadth of culture and universality of power which have made her known to all the world."

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### ART. III.—NOTES ON GERMANY—GARDENING.

In the *Gartenlaube* for September, Dr. Jager, the well-known German author of several works on gardening, draws the attention of the public to the scope afforded to women and girls as gardeners. He mentions, speaking of course with regard to his own country, that scarcely a week passes without advertisements from florists appearing in the daily journals requiring clever hands for the making up of bouquets, and other floral decorations, and it is now increasingly acknowledged that womanly taste and lightness of hand far exceed that possessed by the "nobler sex." Dr. Jager mentions a nursery gardener who employs hundreds of young girls in the operations of gathering, sorting, and arranging both dried and newly gathered flowers. Men and boys are practically excluded from participating in these lighter branches of horticulture, which are exclusively under the control of the gardener's wife. It must not be supposed, continues Dr. Jager, that the young girls thus referred to belong to the class of women who are little above day labourers, they are the daughters of respectable middle-class people, who, if not thus engaged, would be forced to depend upon their needle for support. As a matter of health alone, surely the former mentioned occupation has its advantages. Dr. Jager mentions that at fashionable watering places there is always a ready sale for cut flowers and for fresh fruit. After a few more observations, Dr. Jager insists that practical teaching is a necessity if ladies are to be gardeners, and he believes the only way to meet this difficulty would be the foundation of public or private institutions, where such teaching might be given theoretically and practically. In answer to

this, a member of the Lette Verein writes to say that the idea of women gardeners has been mooted by its members for some years, and that several people of influence had promised their support and co-operation should an opportunity occur for their Society to open such a school as the one referred to. Twelve to fifteen thousand marks (£200 to £750), as capital, would, with German thrift, be sufficient to call such an institution into being. In another German periodical, it was mentioned last September that a Committee of Ladies had agreed to found an Industrial School for girls just out of prison, where they might be taught agriculture, and dairy and house work. The Minister of the Interior had promised this scheme his cordial support, when once it was set going.

The kingdom of Wurtemberg already possesses four agricultural schools, and a description of one at Stubentheim, near Ulm, will pretty well indicate the course pursued in the other three. It is under the direction of Oberamtmann von Geislingen, and a disused Government building has been utilised for the accommodation of the Bauer-mädchen; the class from which these agricultural pupils are drawn. "Bauer" must not in this instance be literally translated peasant, the Bauer being in many instances a very substantial person, though of little or no culture. Every pupil pays 6s. weekly for board, and a yearly charge of £2 12s. is made for instruction. Besides the "Haus-mutter," or matron, there is a teacher of needlework always living in the house, who teaches sewing, knitting, and darning; but this branch of their education is mostly confined to the winter months, when they do little or no work out of doors. The house-mother teaches cooking, washing, scrubbing and dairy work. The village school-master is expected to give instruction in German, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and also—if last, we hope not least—in the principles of religious knowledge, which is supposed to be included in the above curriculum. The nearest medical man is expected to give lectures on health and on natural history, and the advantages of fresh air and plenty of cold water are specially impressed on these young students. Girls living within easy

distance of the institution may attend the various classes by day, to return to their parents roof by night. It is said that the working expenses, when set against the profits obtainable by the sale of the small produce of the farm, do not exceed on an average £75 a year; if the pupils' fees do not cover this, the Agricultural Society in whose district it happens to be, assists it with a donation, as also does the Government, which undertakes a yearly audit of the Schools books.

It may, I think, be fairly concluded that such a school could be made in England self-supporting. Dr. Jager inclines to making small beginnings, so as the better to feel one's way in a new path.

In the *Lette-Verein* newspaper for December there is an interesting account of a similar establishment, founded at St. Vith, a town of Rhenish Prussia, in 1872. St. Vith being in the centre of a great dairy district, was an excellent locality for the proposed experiment to be carried out, as dairy work, with a special regard to butter-making, was the primary object of its promoters—the members of the German Frauen-Verein. The Empress and the Minister for Agriculture, have both evinced much interest in its progress and success.

On 28th of last April, an examination of the school took place, the results proved to be eminently satisfactory; there were 36 scholars from St. Vith and the neighbourhood. The directress, Frau Buschmann, has written a small pamphlet, which is well worth studying, as it gives not only an account of the school itself, but a history of a tour in Denmark, undertaken for the express purpose of observing the Danish dairy system, said by some experts to be the best method yet adopted in Europe.

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#### ART. IV.—TWO NEW COMPOSERS.

ONE very common argument in proof of the intellectual inferiority of women to men, was that though music in



civilised countries almost universally formed part of a girl's education, and was only occasionally taught to boys, yet with the exception of trifling drawing room music, a few light songs, or lighter dances, women had not achieved anything in the way of musical composition. The answer to this was of course obvious; girls were only taught the execution, not the science of music, while their brothers, if they learned music at all, did so by reason of special aptitude or liking which made them cultivate it carefully and thoroughly. Of late years a scientific musical education has been within the reach of women, and the result is already apparent in the solidity and seriousness of their compositions. We had occasion a few months ago to record the achievements of one Frenchwoman who bids fair to become an eminent composer. Two new instances have just been brought to our notice.

Many French papers have mentioned the extraordinary talent of Mdlle. Augusta Holmés, who has recently composed a dramatic symphony called the *Argonauts*. Two years ago she wrote the words and music for a similar work called *Lutetia*, which was presented at the competition instituted by the City of Paris, and which was placed high in the second rank. The choruses are mentioned as possessing great beauty and power, and the final hymn, "The blood of heroes," is grand and vigorous. In the *Argonauts* Mdlle. Holmés has corrected the few crudities of her former style without ceasing to be original. There was a long discussion among the jury on the propriety of giving it only a second place, instead of bracketting it with the first prize, but on a scrutiny of votes, the *Tempest*, by M. Duvernoy, obtained 11 votes, and the *Argonauts* only 9; it was, therefore, placed in the second rank. Mdlle. Holmés, far from resting satisfied with the success already obtained, has with rare energy begun her work for the next competition, which will take place in two years' time. M. Emile Perrin, formerly manager of the opera, and now administrator of the *Theatre Français*, whose reputation as a critic stands deservedly high, says of the *Argonauts*, "It contains pages of superb colouring, and others of exquisite grace. All that is good in this work is of

superior quality, and its effect on the public will be very great."

M. Joncières, the severe critic in the *Liberté* newspaper, says: "The majority of women composers produce rather mediocre works; the most talented generally write what the world calls 'very pretty things,' graceful, elegant, and sufficiently poetical to be applauded by educated people, but Mdlle. Holmés is an exception to this rule. Her music has a vigour, a manliness, and an enthusiasm which deserve much more than the vapid compliments generally accorded to women composers."

Italy, also, possesses a lady who has lately given proof of great genius. The Turin Commission for Popular Concerts, some months ago, announced that a competition for the composition of a Symphony would be held, offering a prize for the best. A very large number of compositions were sent, and the jury, after a careful examination, decided that the first prize belonged to the *Eleonora* Symphony, composed by Signor Baldini, and the second prize to a symphony which—to the great surprise of the Commission—was discovered to be the work of a lady, Signora Olimpia Bini, of Bologna.

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#### ART. V.—DAIRY FARMING FOR WOMEN.

IN a recent number of *Dairy Farming*, by Professor Sheldon, mention is made of the Munster Model Farm, "where provision is made for a thorough practical course of instruction in both outside and inside dairy management." In January and July, farmer's daughters and dairy maids will be admitted as pupils at a moderate fee, to be taught by a matron who is distinguished as a maker of prize butter.

In connection with the above subject, the measures taken by Government in Finland, where dairy farming and cattle-breeding are of the highest importance, will

be interesting; they were published during the International Agricultural Exhibition of 1879. Agreeable to an ordinance of April 7th, 1865, issued by the Imperial Senate of Finland, two female teachers in dairy-farming were at first appointed in the Kuopio Government, in order to instruct the women of the peasantry in making butter and cheese. This measure proving beneficial, fourteen more female teachers (viz., two in each of the other governments) were appointed during the years 1867 and 1868. Might this possibly be a new profession for an enterprising woman in England?

Dairy farming has long been taught in separate classes to girls in the different Agricultural Schools in Finland, but on account of the small number of such institutions in proportion to the requirements of the country, the Government established seventeen dairy schools, at which there are now 147 pupils. Of these, twelve have been established on private estates. The main object of the dairy school is to impart to its female pupils a theoretical and thorough practical knowledge with regard to the feedings and treatment of domestic animals, also, how to make the most of the produce of the cattle-farm. Consequently, the school is only established in a place where dairy farming and cattle-breeding are carried on according to approved and rational principles, and where the supply of milk is sufficient to keep the dairy at work all the year round. The school is under the control of the Directors of the Agricultural Society of the county. The proprietor of the estate is usually the head-master. He places the live stock and dairy, with all necessary implements at the disposal of the school, and is entitled to the produce. He pays the assistant-master and mistress, and provides board and lodging for the pupils, and his salary is about £100 a year. The assistant-master guides the pupils in tending and feeding the live stock, and instructs them for two or three hours in the various subjects of the prospectus. The mistress gives directions as to the treatment of the milk and the making of butter and cheese, besides which, she must keep the accounts of the dairy, and superintend the boarding of the pupils. Each school has eight to eleven

pupils, who must be strong and able to do hard work. The term of instruction extends over two years, half the number being admitted as new pupils each year. A public examination is held each year, and a report forwarded to the government. The subjects taught are :—

FIRST YEAR.—1. Animal physiology. 2. The treatment of animals in health. 3. The commonest forms of disease prevalent among domestic animals, and the treatment thereof. 4. Rearing of young stock. 5. Feeding and nutritive value of the various fodders (a very important branch of the subject in Finland, where the grazing season lasts for so short a period of the year.)

SECOND YEAR.—1. Milk, and its component parts. 2. The influence of temperature upon the component parts of milk; use of thermometer. 3. The various methods of creaming, treatment of the cream before butter-making, and treatment of butter. 4. Making butter from new and from skimmed milk. 5. Book-keeping by single entry.

What a poor country like Finland, with its sparse population, finds to be profitable, might surely be initiated with advantage in England, where dairy products would fetch a much higher price.

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## REVIEWS.

*The Duties of Women: a Course of Lectures* by FRANCES POWER COBBE. Williams & Norgate.

THIS volume contains the six lectures which were delivered last winter in London, and afterwards in Clifton, by Miss Cobbe to an audience of ladies. To the few who had the pleasure of being present, the book will recall pleasant and profitable hours, hours of sympathy with the talented woman who enriched her lectures still further with stores of anecdote and varied illustration. To the many who could not hear

the lectures, the book will be something more; a revelation of a high possibility of goodness, which, if human weakness cannot fully attain, it may at least press forward to; it shows us duty in its three forms, religious, personal, and social, and devoting itself especially to the two last (since religious duty is, and always has been assumed to be the same for man and woman), it shows the beauty of upright conscientiousness and practical "aggressive" virtues, chastity and temperance, which are always considered peculiarly feminine characteristics, truth, courage and love of freedom, which are really as essential to the woman as to the man. We do not believe that women as an actual fact, are inferior to men in these latter qualities, yet there is such "a fierce light that beats upon" every woman, who steps if ever so little out of the obscurity of domestic life, that the imperfections of *one* are by process of generalization, supposed to be the imperfections of *all*, and though the average woman is as truthful and courageous as the average man, it is none the less true that a failure in this respect has been considered more excusable in her than in a man, just as a failure in chastity and temperance has been considered more venial in men. The duties of daughters, sisters, mothers, and wives, are slightly sketched out, as also of women who are mistresses of households and members of a social or public circle. The difficulties and temptations of each sphere are touched upon, and the keynote of the whole—"love being the fulfilment of the law," not passive, but active and pervading love, gives the tone to the book; to bring the kingdom of God a little nearer; in simple fidelity to duty, "to *be* the very best and truest we know how, and to *do* around us every work of love which our hands and hearts may reach." The Roman people once thanked a gallant though defeated Consul for not having despaired of his country. Women, likewise, workers and thinkers in every sphere of life, will feel a sense of gratitude to Miss Cobbe for the noble faith she has in human nature, and her certainty that this ideal may be reached.

A few lines from her preface on public spirit in

women appear to us singularly needed at the present time.

Men, especially Englishmen and Americans, are, as a rule, wonderfully generous to women. Thousands of them labour for their mothers, their wives, or their daughters all their lives long, and the higher minded are full of chivalrous indulgence for all women. If we count over with speechless indignation the hundreds of men who in our country yearly beat and trample their wretched wives to death, we must never allow that hideous fact—or any other of the many wrongs of our sex—to blind us to the counterbalancing truth that the average Englishman means well to women, and will make no small sacrifices for them, and that there exist at least as many noble and high-hearted men, genuine champions of our sex in Parliament and out of it, as there are wife-beating ruffians in the slums of Liverpool and London.

But with all their kindly feelings, their good intentions, their readiness to labour and sacrifice themselves for women, men give us rarely that which we really want, not favour, but *justice*. Nothing is easier than to coax them to pet us like children, nothing more difficult than to persuade them to treat us like responsible human beings. Only a small number of them, it would seem, can yet be brought to realize that we have not only mouths to be fed and hearts to be comforted by faithful affection, but also brains to be cultivated, and wills seeking also like their own, for the free use of whatever powers we may inherit. That a woman should really possess *public spirit*, and that its exercise should be as ennobling to her as it is to a man, this is a lesson which it takes most men half a life time to learn.

It is not then from men with all their kindness, that we must look primarily for aid to climb the ascent before us. Even if they were more ready than they now are to help us, they could do very little beyond encouraging us by their sympathy, and smoothing a few obstacles out of our way. Ours is the old story of every uprising race, or class, or order. The work of elevation must be wrought by ourselves or not at all.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."  
SHORT HOURS FOR SHOPWOMEN.

DEAR MADAM.—The following announcement requires attention.

"WOMEN AND OVERWORK.

"Mr. W. Molesworth St. Aubyn, M.P. for Helston, will during the coming session call the attention of the House of Commons to a question which has recently

been the subject of considerable discussion, viz., the long hours of employment and overwork of women engaged in the drapery trade."

Mr. M. St. Aubyn deserves the thanks of women for the kindness of his intentions towards them, but in this instance it is probable that he would do harm to those he means to serve, for if he succeeded in obtaining a law to shorten their hours of work, such legislation would simply cause women to be dismissed from their situations and men to be employed in their place. The fact that the ten hours bill in factories has been successful in shortening the hours of work without leading to the dismissal of women from employment, is often quoted as a precedent to show that the same good effect would follow the case of shops also. A little reflection, however, would show that the cases are most dissimilar. In a factory the chief expense to the employer is labour. In some factories a thousand or more hands are employed, and five hundred is quite a usual number. Where such large numbers of persons are employed, it is evident that the amount of wages paid is most important. The difference between the wages of a thousand men at three shillings a day, or of a thousand women at one and sixpence, is so enormous that manufacturers find it to their advantage rather to work two hours a day less than to dismiss their women operators and employ men in their place.

But in shops the position is the exactly opposite, the wages paid to the shop people being a very small item in the expenses of a shop-keeper. His chief expenses are in the purchase of the wares he sells and in the rent of his premises. His danger of loss is that he may not be able to sell all he has bought. It may remain on his hands until it is old fashioned and spoilt, and then has lost half its value.

One shop assistant may easily sell goods to the value of fifty pounds in one day, and in some establishments it is probable that each assistant sells to a much larger amount. How insignificant then, is the difference between six shillings a day paid to a shopman or three shillings paid to a woman compared to the amount sold.

A shop-keeper would lose more than this small amount

in the course of a quarter of an hour, on each salesman or saleswoman, if compelled to close at a time when customers were calling.

Let us consider how a law for restricting the hours of work for shopwomen would act in the case of two rival tradesmen, one of whom employed men and the other women.

The one who employed women would save about three shillings a day on each assistant employed; but would have to close his shop at seven or eight in the evening. The other would lose three shillings a day on each assistant employed, but might keep his shop open as long as customers keep coming. If each of his salesmen sold goods only at the rate of £1 an hour, is it not evident that in two hours he would have made more than the difference in wages.

As matters stand at present, women who suffer from standing can become dressmakers, and those who suffer from sedentary work can become saleswomen; but if women are prevented from getting employment in shops, a large number who suffer from sitting still all day, will be compelled to become dressmakers to their great injury and to the great injury of the other dressmakers, as so large an influx of workers would bring down the wages of dressmakers to a low point. From such well-intentioned but really cruel legislation may Heaven preserve poor working women.

I am, Madam, yours faithfully,  
JESSIE BOUCHERET.

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MADAM,—Some attention has been excited lately by the long hours during which shops are kept open, and necessarily the extreme fatigue, conducing in too many instances to permanent disease of the shopwomen. The early closing movement has done something to alleviate this evil, but it is obvious that a reform of this kind cannot begin with the tradesmen who are naturally unable to lose the profits which some who would not join the movement would entirely reap. It is proposed that the purchasers shall help those tradesmen who really wish to close their shops at a reasonable hour, by enabling them to do so with as little loss of custom as



possible, and an association of ladies is being formed in Kensington, Notting Hill, Bayswater, and other western suburbs of London, whose members pledge themselves to make no purchases after the hour of 5 p.m. from the first of October to the first of April, and after the hour of 6 p.m. during the summer months in any shop for the sale of drapery, millinery, haberdashery, ladies' underclothing, or materials for fancy work. Any lady willing to pledge herself should send her name to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. Perrier, 2, Pembroke Road, Kensington. This association will not of course affect the hours of closing of those commoner shops, where the wives of labourers and working people go to make their purchases, such shops *must* keep late hours, for the women as a rule, cannot get out to do their shopping till the evening. But the larger establishments do not look to these poor women for their custom, and will find it much easier to adopt the humane course of early closing by such a resolution being taken by a large body of their customers.

I am,

ONE WHO DOES HER OWN SHOPPING.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### EDUCATION.

#### CAMBRIDGE.

NEWNHAM COLLEGE.—In the recent examination for the Moral Science Tripos, Miss F. E. Hoyle attained the standard of a second class. In the examination for the Historical Tripos, Miss M. C. Malleson attained the standard of a second, and Miss E. Fyfe of a third class; and in the examination for the Natural Sciences Tripos, Miss E. M. Clarke and Miss C. E. Cross attained the standard of a second class.

GIRTON COLLEGE.—At the recent examination for the Moral Tripos, Miss Constance Jones attained the

standard of a first class, Miss Alice Woods and Miss Grace Travers of a second and third class respectively. At the examination for the Natural Science Tripos, Miss Olive Harcourt attained the standard of a second class.

#### EDUCATION OF WOMEN IN WALES.

Among the witnesses who gave evidence before the Departmental Committee on Higher and Intermediate Education in Wales at its preliminary sitting in London, was Mrs. Frances E. Hoggan, M.D. This lady has acquaintance with many portions of the Principality, as her father was a Pembrokeshire man and her mother was a Carmarthenshire woman, and she herself was brought up in Glamorganshire. Mrs. Hoggan said that intermediate schools were of great importance in Wales to prepare women for higher education. The young women of Wales had not had a fair proportion of the endowments of the country applied to their education. With the exception of the Dolgelly School, no endowments had been applied to the higher education of girls at day schools. The Howell Endowment could hardly be said to have been applied to that purpose. It had been applied to the foundation of what one might call charity boarding schools, and especially for the advantage of the Church population in Wales. The difficulty in the way of the Nonconformist girls being admitted to schools at Denbigh and Llandaff must be very great from the constitution of those schools, and from the fact that the mistresses are required to sign a declaration that they belong to the Church of England, and from the fact that the examiners must be priests in holy orders. She also found it stated in the reports of the Schools Inquiry Commission that the charity was not founded for Welsh orphans, or in any way connected specially with Wales. At Llandaff no distinction was made between English and Welsh girls, rendering it probable that the school was less useful to Welsh than English girls in the neighbourhood. She would suggest that the schools be made entirely unsectarian and accessible to all denominations; that the mistresses be not required to belong to the Church of England; that some public examination of the school be instituted by

an independent body; that the day department be very greatly increased, and made available, in the particular case of Llandaff, as a school for residents in Llandaff. It could hardly be made in its present position largely available for the girls of Cardiff; it was rather too far away for that purpose. With regard to the school at Denbigh, she had no personal knowledge of it; but the same lines might be followed in its case also. Respecting schools elsewhere, she had prepared a scheme, which she wished to submit to the commissioners. It was as follows:—

#### SCHEME FOR HIGHER AND SECONDARY EDUCATION OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN WALES.

"All education to be entirely unsectarian, and provision to be made for the adequate representation of Nonconformists in the management of all endowed or publicly assisted places of education. Women to be admitted to all examinations, and to be eligible for degrees (as at the London-University) at the Welsh University it is proposed to establish, and to be admitted on equal terms with men to all the classes at any university colleges or technical schools founded with public money, as well as to their fair share of scholarships and exhibitions. The boarding-houses and special arrangements required for women to be in every instance under the control of ladies. It is desirable in the interests of women as well as men, that the lines of the old universities be not slavishly followed, but that the exigencies of modern life be born in mind throughout, and that the sciences and modern languages (including Welsh), receive their due share of attention; thoroughness in the subjects studied being required of candidates for a degree, but the choice of subjects being left as wide as possible, and the number of subjects examined in at one time being strictly limited." To this I add a note:—"In all educational arrangements, the danger of over-strain from the simultaneous study of too many subjects demands careful consideration. The London University has not altogether avoided this danger, and the number of subjects they have to keep up at one time is felt by good students to be a hindrance to their real progress." Then with regard to *secondary education*. I would suggest: "The State not to provide secondary schools for girls or boys, but to content itself with stimulating and helping on secondary instruction by scholarships of two kinds. (a.) To be competed for by pupils in elementary schools, and other children, and held at secondary schools of proved efficiency. (b.) To be competed for by pupils in secondary schools, and other children, and held at some college or approved place of higher or technical education; a large amount of discretion in the choice of such place of education to be allowed to the successful competitor." I would suggest that the State should also aid secondary instruction "by yearly examinations at a sufficient number of local centres, and a large number of exhibitions or prizes

awarded on the results of the examination. The Irish intermediate scheme may be followed with advantage in many respects, with equality, however, between boys and girls, and encouragement to be given in some form for skill in swimming and other healthful physical exercises. The results fees for teachers sanctioned by the Irish scheme being liable to great abuse in the forcing on of clever children, to the neglect of backward ones, may advantageously be replaced in Wales by the hope of endowment out of funds left for educational purposes." Then, with respect to *endowed schools*, I would offer the following suggestions: "The State, through the Endowed Schools Commission, the Charity Commission, by Act of Parliament, or otherwise, to cause a searching investigation into the application of endowments, past and present, to be made (especially where rich irresponsible companies are the trustees) and to order the publication of the results of all such enquiries. In all redistribution of endowments, undertaken by the Charity Commission and the Endowed Schools Commission, women and girls to be primarily considered for some time to come, and according to the recommendation of the Schools Inquiry Commission, 1868, page 563, the principle of the full participation of girls in endowments to be broadly laid down. This principle requires that girls should now be considered before boys:—(1) Because of their urgent need, and the deplorable state of women's education in Wales; (2) Because they have been in so many instances defrauded of their share of endowments left for children or for all persons willing to be taught, and because injustice has been done them even recently by not allowing women to participate in the management of endowments for girls, an exclusion which has resulted in great waste and in disregard of the rights of Nonconformist girls in the case of Howell's Charity at least. For the above reasons it is expedient to apply for the present, and until there is a substantial readjustment of the claims of girls and boys, all funds made available by the re-distribution of endowments:—(1) To the establishing of endowed day schools for girls at low fees in or near large centres of population, where a local fund can be raised to meet the endowment. (2) To the endowing of any thoroughly efficient existing secondary school. (3) To the founding of special technical schools for women, *e.g.*, nursing schools, dairy schools, and schools for training in the various branches of domestic economy."

In cross examination Mrs. Hoggan said she thought any scheme for university extension—that was, giving university instruction by means of lectures and classes to persons employed during the day in other avocations—would be much better carried on in connection with a Welsh university. As the result of her own experience, she was favourable to the co-education of young men and young women, and she thought there ought to be no distinction of sex other than that which might be rendered necessary by having special arrangements

for the comfort of women and children students, who should be under the care of ladies. In case a degree giving body were established, she thought it was of importance to the education of women that the degrees should be given to them; Wales was suffering at the present more than anything, perhaps, from a dearth of teachers generally, but more especially women teachers. Nothing would tend more to raise the status of women teachers, and their general capability, than the power of obtaining the high-class teaching of a university, and the sanction which only a degree could give.—Abridged from *Western Mail*.

#### HEAD SCHOOLMISTRESSES' ASSOCIATION FOR ULSTER.

On 23rd of December, by the invitation of the Belfast Ladies' Institute, a large and representative gathering of the principals of ladies' schools in Ulster met at luncheon in the Lombard Hall, Belfast. Immediately afterwards a conference was held, at which many points of great importance in the working of the examinations of the Intermediate Education Board were discussed. The chair was occupied by Mrs. Ewart, wife of the senior member for Belfast, and among the speakers were Miss Tod, on behalf of the Ladies' Institute, Mrs. Byers (Belfast), Mrs. Woulfe (Armagh), Miss M'Killip (Derry), and many other ladies. A strong memorial to the Intermediate Education Board was adopted, asking that no change as regards girls should be made in the subjects, marks, places, or rewards of their examinations. An Association of Head Schoolmistresses was then formed, which, it is hoped, will prove of much value.

#### WOMEN SUFFRAGE IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

The House of Keys have had a struggle for the woman's franchise, and have come off only partly successful. The Council (the other branch of the Manx Legislature), among whom there was a difference of opinion, agreed to give the franchise to all male and female owners of real estate of £4 annual value, but refused it to female occupiers and lodgers.

On this amendment being brought before the Keys, they gave up the lodger franchise for women; its effect

in the Island is so trifling that they held it to be of little consequence as regards either men or women, but they adhered to the franchise for the woman occupier. Mr. SHERWOOD said he would be content to lose the Bill unless the franchise for occupancy to women were adopted. He felt quite certain that the next rectification in England would be the admission of women there, and he was anxious to secure the position of the Keys and Council, being the first legislature to make this law. The Bill thus altered was forwarded to the Council, and was again returned to the Keys with a message that the Council refused to agree. The Keys then proposed a compromise, raising the qualification for women occupiers to £20 a year. This again was refused, and the Keys were informed that the Council would reject the Bill if they stood out.

A conference then took place, and the Keys came to the conclusion that it was advisable to get the concession to women owners secured, as thereby the principle of women's suffrage was conceded. They, therefore, agreed to the Bill, which confers the electoral franchise on female owners of real estate, but excludes occupiers; but they forwarded a protest, and passed a resolution that they agreed to the proposal simply to secure the partial concession, rather than lose the whole; and that their opinion as to the equal rights of males and females remained unaltered. This was passed unanimously.

The grounds of their concession being reported to the Council, the Governor said they could not allow the Keys to have the monopoly of sympathy with the ladies in the matter, and that they were influenced in their decision by the fact that they had to get the Royal Assent. If they went too far, they might get a refusal of the whole. If, when the Bill had been secured, the Keys should move to extend it, the Council would feel more at liberty to entertain the proposal, especially after the experience of a general election under it.

The Act, as passed by the Keys and Council, was signed by the Governor, Keys, and Council, on December 21st. It received the Royal assent on Wednesday, January 5th, and is therefore now law. Befor<sub>e</sub>

coming into effect it will be proclaimed on the Tynwald Hill, according to ancient Manx custom. The first election under the new Act will take place in March.

MR. COURTENAY'S great abilities having met with due recognition by the Government, he has accepted the post of Under-Secretary for the Home Department. This office necessarily involves his resignation into other hands of the charge of the Women's Disabilities' Bill. Mr. Courtenay's advancement must give great satisfaction to all the ladies who have worked for three years under the guidance of so able and courageous a champion. Within a few days we expect to see the announcement that this measure will be brought forward; Mr. Hugh Mason, Member for Ashton-under-Lyne, has signified his willingness to take charge of this measure in the House of Commons.

#### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY.

The second session of Parliament opened on January 6th, on which occasion Mr. Hinde Palmer, Q.C., gave notice of his intention to bring in a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the property of married women.

In connexion with this measure, a small deputation waited upon the Lord Chancellor, on January 7th, at his private room in the House of Lords. The deputation consisted of Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., Mr. Arthur Arnold, M.P., and Sir Arthur Hobhouse, and was introduced by Mr. Hinde Palmer. The provisions of the proposed measure were discussed at length. The Lord Chancellor expressed his entire concurrence with that portion of the Bill providing for the complete possession of her property by a married woman, and expressed a desire for the opportunity of further considering the clauses of the measure. He promised he would then consult with the promoters of the Bill as to its provisions and progress in Parliament.

A BILL to amend the law regarding the property of married women in Scotland was also brought forward by Mr. Anderson, Mr. McLaren, and Sir David Wedderburn.

The provisions of this Bill are as follows:—

1. In all cases of marriage taking place *after the passing of this Act*, where the wife or the husband is at the date of such marriage domiciled in Scotland, or shall afterwards become so, the husband's *jus mariti* and right of administration in or over all moveable or personal estate then belonging to her, or which may thereafter be earned by her own industry, or to which she may otherwise acquire right during marriage, shall, unless otherwise settled by any instrument duly executed by her, be entirely excluded from such estate in like manner in all respects as if the said *jus mariti* and right of administration had, prior to the marriage, been effectually excluded by an instrument duly executed and intimated, or otherwise perfected in legal and competent form.

2. The rents and produce of heritable property in Scotland shall in like manner no longer be subject to the *jus mariti* and right of administration of the husband of any married proprietrix, and the husband's consent shall no longer be necessary to the sale or disposition thereof, whether absolutely or in security, or to any suit or action relating thereto; but this enactment shall not apply to the property of any woman married before the passing of this Act, except as hereinafter provided.

3. This Act shall not apply to cases of marriage which shall have taken place before its passing, except the husband's *jus mariti* and right of administration shall be excluded from all estate, moveable or heritable, subject to the law of Scotland, to which the wife may acquire right after the passing of the Act, or which may thereafter be earned by her own industry.

4. It shall be competent to all persons married before the passing of this Act to declare by mutual and irrevocable deed that the wife's whole estate, including such as may have previously come to the husband in right of his wife, shall be regulated by this Act, and upon such deed being registered in the register of deeds at Edinburgh or in the Sheriff Court register of the county in which the parties reside, and being advertised in terms of the schedule, in the Edinburgh Gazette and in *two* newspapers circulating in such county, the said estate shall be vested in her as hereinbefore provided, and subject to the provisions of this Act; but no such deed shall be of any effect as against any debt or obligation contracted by the husband prior to the date of the deed being so advertised.

5. Wherever the *jus mariti* and right of administration are excluded by this Act from any moveable estate of a wife, the husband and children shall, on the wife's death, have the same rights to participation in such estate as the wife and children would have in the moveable succession of a husband in like circumstances, but nothing herein contained shall affect the present law relating to courtesy and terce.

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, the wife's personal estate, and the rents of her heritable estate, shall be subject to attachment for all debts and obligations contracted by her, whether before or after marriage, and also for debts arising out of the domestic expenditure of the spouses by whomsoever incurred: Provided that no execution against the wife's estate for such last-mentioned debts shall be competent except to the extent to which there shall be a



deficiency of the husband's estate to satisfy the same, and such execution shall issue only upon a judge's order, endorsed on the extract of the Decree and bearing that evidence has been adduced to him that the husband's estate has been exhausted or is not available.

7. This Act shall not affect any contracts made or to be made between married persons before or during marriage, or the law relating to such contracts, or the law relating to donations between married persons, or to a wife's right to aliment, or to a wife's non-liability to diligence against her person.

8. This Act may be cited as the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act, 1881.

#### NON-LIABILITY OF HUSBANDS.

At the Bradford County Court, on December 21st, before Mr. W. T. S. Daniel, Q.C., the judge, an action was brought by Mr. John Laycock, 353, Brownroyd, draper, &c., to recover from Oswald Tweedale, dyer, Bingley-street, Brownroyd, the sum of 6s. 3d, the balance of an account for goods supplied to Mrs. Tweedale. The plaintiff in answer to the judge, said that the goods, which consisted of a shawl and other articles, were supplied to the wife without any order from the husband, but he said that he had since seen the defendant and told him that his wife had had the goods, and the defendant did not deny it. The Judge said that that would not make the husband liable. It was very important that shopkeepers now should know exactly the state of the law in reference to these matters. The recent judgment of the House of Lords declared the law in a very clear and distinct manner, and to an extent which, according to his experience in that court, would very seriously affect the liabilities of husbands to small tradesmen. Hitherto it has been assumed that a wife, in her character of wife was entitled by law to pledge the credit of her husband for necessities—food and clothing for herself and children; it had been assumed that the law gave her that authority, and that the husband was bound to pay for any goods of that description which she obtained as his wife. It was now settled law, declared by the House of Lords, that the wife, in her character of a wife, had no authority whatever to pledge her husband's credit, even for necessities. She could only pledge his credit if there be an express authority given by her husband, or the circumstances of the particular case were such that the court would be justified in inferring that the husband gave the authority. The mere fact that the goods were necessities, and the mere fact that they had been supplied to the wife for the purposes of the husband, would not bind him to pay for them, because the wife will have no more authority now to buy goods for the purposes of the family than a servant had to obtain goods on the credit of her master. The wife was now reduced by law to the position of a servant or agent merely. It would be the judge's duty in each particular case to see if the court could assume, from the mode in which the parties dealt, that the husband's authority to his wife to pledge his credit had been given. His Honour added that this declaration of the law would be

a great protection for good husbands against bad wives, but at present he failed to see how it would be an equal protection for a good wife against a bad husband. A good wife still living with her husband had no power to pledge his credit. He was afraid that where it happened there was a good wife who was struggling to keep her family decently and properly, and the husband squandered his wages in the beerhouse, the brothel, and the betting-house, which were the three resorts of dissolute and debauched men, the wife would be found under this declaration of the law to have no resource but the Poor Law.—*Women's Suffrage Journal*.

#### WOMEN LANDOWNERS IN IRELAND.

Although the stronger sex is apt to assume that moral courage like physical strength is their own peculiar birthright, the papers give us day after day instances of the *pluck* and steadiness that Irish ladies, as well as Irish gentlemen, display in this emergency. We need only quote three. On December 23rd, Miss Ellard, who owns a large estate, returned from Dublin by the 6.30 p.m. train, arriving at Oola, and proceeded to her residence in an open carriage. When about three hundred yards from the railway station a shot was fired from behind a ditch at Miss Ellard, the bullet striking the carriage at her back and glancing off. Miss Ellard, who lately has taken the precaution of always carrying a loaded revolver, on hearing the shot at once drew her revolver, and fired three shots at the would-be assassin, but without effect, the fellow at once running away. Miss Ellard returned to the constabulary station at Oola, and reported the outrage to the police.

A cowardly attempt was made on December 25th at Monasterboice, county Louth, on the life of the Hon. Mrs. Dunlop and her daughter. These ladies were driving up the avenue to their residence in a pony phaeton, when a shot was fired from the bushes, which, fortunately, did not take effect. Miss Dunlop jumped out of the phaeton, and ran in the direction from which the shot came. A man crouching under the shrubs with a gun in his hand took to flight. Miss Dunlop pursued, but failed to overtake the cowardly miscreant. She, however, secured the gun, which, in his flight, he threw away.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* thus describes

Mrs. O'Callaghan, who, since her husband has been boycotted, goes to fetch the letters:—

"And begorra," said one informant, "it's herself that's a devil of a lady entoirely, and she shoots rabbits wid a rifle at three hundred yards and never misses, and she tould 'um at the village that she'd as soon shoot one of 'um as a rabbit, and she is the sisther of Misthress Dick Stacpoole, of Edenvale. They was the Miss Westroppps, your honour, out of County Limerick, and it is thim as make their husbands the tyrants that they are." This account made me wonder at two things—firstly, at the astounding power of lying and exaggeration displayed by my interlocutor, and secondly where the old Irish gallantry towards the fair sex has gone to. It seems to have gone very far, for one hears now of ladies being shot at frequently. But, although not impressed with the truth of the information vouchsafed to me, I expected to see at least an Irish version of Lady Macbeth, instead of the graceful, well-dressed, thoroughbred Irish lady who had just come from a long walk to the post-office and back. Since the boy who used to carry the letter bag was frightened away, Mrs. O'Callaghan has taken up his duties, and armed with rifle and revolver, performs them daily. With the case of Miss Ellard and other ladies, before my eyes, I cannot blame Mrs. O'Callaghan for going about armed, and maintaining a defiant attitude towards the people, who really go in bodily fear. There is, as I have observed, nothing to terrify in the look or voice of Mrs. O'Callaghan, but I gradually gather from her conversation—that it is not all romance about her wonderful shooting. If not at three hundred, yet at thirty yards she can hit a rabbit cleverly enough, and actually does go out rabbit shooting "for the pot" to relieve the monotony of everlasting pig and sheep. Mrs. O'Callaghan is also nearly as good a shot with the revolver as her husband, and would certainly not hesitate to use that weapon in self-defence.

The *Manchester Courier* of January 4th says:—"The Chief Secretary had a novel interview last week. A Tuam paper stated that Mrs. Bodkin, of Rosebery, waited upon him at Dublin Castle to represent the sad condition of affairs upon her property and of the country generally. She informed the Chief Secretary that as the landlords seemed in such cases to be asleep and apathetic, if not afraid, to defend their interests, it was the duty of Irish ladies to show that they had not the same craven spirit. It is thought that Mrs. Bodkin will organize a deputation of landladies to the Chief Secretary. Mr. Forster has given her no encouragement but expresses sympathy with her injured class."

It will be a curious comment on the foregoing paragraphs if the Government should pass a bill assimilating the Irish franchise to that of England and Scotland,

thus leaving these courageous ladies unrepresented while giving votes to the men who shoot at them.

POPE LEO XIII. has approved of the organisation of a Catholic Charitable Association being formed by a number of Irish ladies for aiding the families of poor or evicted tenants. The statutes of the society, which were presented to the Pope by Cardinal Howard, have received the Pontifical approval. It is distinctly understood that the society shall take no part whatever in political agitation. A refuge is to be established in Dublin for the reception of the wives and children of distressed tenants.

LADIES' LAND LEAGUE.—In anticipation of Government action against local branches of the Irish National Land League, arrangements are being made for the establishment of a Ladies' Land League throughout Ireland. Such a movement has already been organised in America, where Mrs. Parnell, the mother of the Member for Cork, is the President, and Miss Fanny Parnell and Mr. John Stewart, the sister and brother of Mr. Parnell, M.P., are acting as organisers. The Irish movement will be led by the wives of the local leaders of the existing league, and will devote themselves to the collection of funds.

#### THE QUEEN'S INSTITUTE, DUBLIN.

On December 16th, his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and Countess Cowper attended at the Queen's Institute, Molesworth Street, and presided over the annual distribution of prizes won by the pupils of the Institute during the year. Lord Talbot de Malahide, who, with others of the Committee, received the distinguished party, explained the objects of the institution, namely, to enable the female members of respectable families in straitened circumstances to support themselves in some measure, at least, by their own exertions by fancy needlework of an artistic description, painting, and so forth. The institute had been most successful, and had met with encouragement from many benefactors.

The distribution then took place, after which Sir THOMAS JONES, President R.H.A., thanked their

Excellencies on behalf of the committee and Miss Corlett, the secretary and founder, and to show the prosperous state of the institute, mentioned that there were at present in the elementary drawing class 58 pupils; water colour paintings, 22; porcelain painting, 36; engaged at law writing, 7; and at book-keeping 8, with proportionate numbers in the other classes and departments. He made special allusion to the Aronsberg Princess Alice Memorial Prize, which has been founded by Mr. Aronsberg, of Manchester, to commemorate the virtues and talents of the lamented Grand Duchess of Hesse. The Queen's Institute has been appointed by Mr. Aronsberg the institution for Ireland to receive this annual prize for female students, and it was gained this year by Miss Sarah A. Black.

The Lord Lieutenant, in reply, expressed great satisfaction at the excellence of the display of works of art exhibited in the room, and at the success of the pupils at the examinations undergone by them. He regretted that they had not apartments where the various works of art executed by the pupils could be exhibited to more advantage, and he trusted that the institution would grow larger and more flourishing every year, and be able to extend its sphere of usefulness over a continually increasing area. The Viceregal party then inspected the paintings in oils and water colours, and the paintings on porcelain, and the other objects exhibited.

#### WOMEN IN ART.

**THE FEMALE SCHOOL OF ART.**—The annual prizes to students at the Female School of Art, Queen Square, have been awarded thus: Queen's scholarship, Florence Reason (second year); National Gilchrist scholarships, Ethel Spiller (second year) and Ethel Chapman Nisbet (first year); Clothworkers' scholarship, Catherine Martha Wood; Subscribers' scholarship, Norah Waugh; Queen's gold medal, Florence Reason; National silver medal, Edith Harris and E. C. Nisbet; National bronze medal, F. Reason; National Queen's prizes, Alice Jane Chaplin, Eliz. M. Lovell, Ellen Rouse, Ethel Mary Spiller and Lydia Whitaker. Vacation prizes: notes of effect in colour, equal prizes to Maude Berry and E. Deane; in

black and white, Edith Ellison; studies of fruit, Annie Jeffrey; of flowers, first prize, Ethel Nisbet; second, Gertrude Ashton; of landscapes, Rose Welby; of skies, Catherine Newman; designs for plates and outlines, Ottélie Bodé and Annie Butler. Prizes for fans: first, Rose Welby; second, E. C. Nisbet; third, E. R. Stones; fourth, Gertrude Ashton. A painting from the life, "British Sailor," in water colours, by Florence Reason, has been purchased by Her Majesty.

THE Manchester Society of Women Painters had, last month, a small but interesting exhibition of pictures by the members and associates. Miss Isabel Dacre, Miss Annie Robinson, and Miss Gertrude Thompson exhibited particularly good and clever work. Examples of portraits, landscapes, figures, *genre*, flower and decorative painting, show that the Manchester women artists are determined to leave no branch of their art untried. We are glad to hear that these young ladies secured £100 as the result of their exhibition.

THE Princess Louise contributes to the new exhibition of the Society of Painters in Watercolours, life-sized portraits of Sir John McNeill, V.C., and Lieut.-Col. F. de Wilton.

ART SCHOOL AND HOME.—A proposal is being made to establish an Art School and Home for young ladies in London, in connection with a kindred institution at Rome, with the object of creating a sympathy for religious work among English art students. Decorative art work for churches will be undertaken by the students. The Home will be, according to the *Literary Churchman*, at Wimbledon.

#### THE SOMERVILLE CLUB.

The sub-committee of the Somerville Club for women, which was appointed to make arrangements for the Club, has taken rooms at 21, Mortimer Street, W. This house has been taken for three years by certain members of the Club, on their own responsibility, and these lessees of the house will underlet to the Club certain rooms to be rented for a period of three years. The Club rooms consist of a drawing room and a reading room on the first floor and of a discussion and waiting-

room on the ground floor, and notice of their readiness will be sent to the members, as soon as the necessary repairs and furnishing are completed. There are at present in the house other rooms unoccupied, for some of which the lessees of the house have received applications from members of the Club. Should other members wish to engage one or more of these rooms, for private or professional use, they are invited to apply to Mr. F. Byrne, 48, Brewer Street, Golden Square, W. Subscriptions may be sent to Miss Hamilton, 27, Southampton Buildings, W.C. (*Treasurer*), or to Miss Raisin, 85, Hungerford Road, N. (*Hon. Sec.*).

#### HOMES FOR DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

Among the many efforts which have been made to ameliorate the condition of this most deserving class of the community, none has done more thorough or less obtrusive work than the Home, established and supported by Mrs. P. A. Taylor, at 1, Bessborough Gardens, Pimlico, for young women of good character, when out of situations. This Home has been in existence for six years, and in proportion as it is better known, is it appreciated by the class it is intended to serve. The girls pay 6d. a day, but this of course is quite insufficient to cover expenses. Since the Home was opened in January 1875, there have been 1108 entrances. During the past year 168 different girls have entered the Home; 128 once; 40 twice; 8 three times; 3 four times; 1 five times; making a total of 247 entrances. Of these 168 young servants, 94 may be termed good; 13 unsatisfactory; 4 sick; 12 returned to parents; 3 not in service; 3 sent to other Homes; 38 no report lately. The Home contains 12 beds.

#### TEMPERANCE MISSION AT HASTINGS—WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.

We omitted to notice in our last number the Women's Conference held in the Warrior Square Concert Hall, on November 18th, under the presidency of Mrs. Law. There was a very large attendance. The proceedings commenced by the singing of a hymn, succeeded by an appropriate prayer offered by Mrs. Van Buren. Letters of apology were read from Lady Anne Murray and Mrs.

Brassey, who were unable to attend the Conference. The President, in a few observations, said she commenced being a total abstainer in 1865, when she took up the cause of temperance, and begun to work amongst poor people. And she was very glad, indeed, that she had become an abstainer, and she was better mentally and physically, without wine, though it cost her very little to give it up. She would say to the Queen down to the lowest woman in the land—give it a fair trial for the sake of their own bodies and minds, and also for the sake of those by whom they were surrounded. Touching the difference which existed between the medical profession as to the use of alcohol, she said she had thoroughly looked into the arguments adduced on either side, and she found that their lines of argument ran very close together; there was not half so much difference as one might think. She spoke of women in confinement being pulled through quite as well as others who thought alcoholic drinks were necessary. She called upon them to diminish the quantity they were in the habit of taking, were it ever so small a quantity, and finally to leave it off entirely. They should never take their drinks as a luxury. To those who were in the habit of taking too much, she strongly advised them to leave off altogether, and at once. After several remarks as to the influence of women, and how they should use it, Mrs. Law resumed her seat amid much applause. Mrs. Durrant, of London, read a paper entitled, "How best to reach the working women of our country." She first said she was the wife of a working man and had been a teetotaller since the year 1840, and proceeded to explain the way in which the Working Women's Teetotal League in London was managed. In the course of an interesting and practical address she showed that working women can do without alcoholic drinks. Mrs. Nellie Whiteman next read a paper on "Women's Work in Temperance Reformation." She said that in the work of temperance there was a great scope for their faculties. After expressing a hope that they would some day have a Parliamentary vote, she further hoped that they would then vote for those can-



didates who were in favour of the prohibitory measures. She declared that grocers and confectioners' licenses were the source of an incalculable amount of evil. The paper, which was an eloquent one, was listened to with great attention. After a collection was made and a temperance hymn had been sung, a pleasing address was given by Mrs. Richardson, of Stepney. After dwelling on the immense influence which, she believed, women exercised in a greater proportion than men, she urged all her hearers for the sake of others with whom they were connected to become abstainers.

FACTORY INSPECTORS.—On January 8th a very numerous deputation waited on Sir William Harcourt, the Home Secretary, for the purpose of laying before him their views on the desirability of increased factory and workshop inspection. The deputation consisted of delegates from all the chief trades unions in the country, amongst them being several women representing businesses in which their sex was engaged. This is an advance from the time, two years ago when Mr. Cross refused to receive a deputation of women on this subject.

#### GUARDIANS OF THE POOR.

A meeting will take place in Clifton in a few days for the purpose of considering the special fitness of women to fill this important office. Addresses will be given by Miss Andrews, Poor Law Guardian of St. Pancras, and Miss Merington, who was for many years Guardian in Kensington. The following letter by Dr. Beddor appeared some months ago in the Bristol newspapers, but it goes so straight to the point that we gladly reprint it here.

#### LADY GUARDIANS.

GENTLEMEN,—I think it must be merely from the novelty of the idea of Lady Guardians of the Poor that any persons can be found to object to them.

In olden days the aged, the helpless, and the infant paupers were intermingled with the rest of the population, and we know that they were the especial care of women. Why should they be deprived of this care now-a-days because it is thought better to congregate them together? One reason urged against it is that women, from their softness of heart, would be over-indulgent at the expense of the rates; but to be qualified to act as a guardian, a lady must be a rate-

payer, and we have no reason to think that the paying of rates is more agreeable to widows and spinsters than to the rest of us. Again, it is said that ladies may now visit the workhouse unofficially. All who are acquainted with management know that the interference of persons in authority is quite another thing from that of the unauthorised, and certainly it is better that work of so much importance should be made by responsible persons.

Occasionally cases may have to be brought before the board of such a nature that the presence of ladies at their discussion would scarcely be desirable; but surely our excellent officers could arrange that these should be brought forward on the departure of the ladies, or before a special committee of gentlemen.

Your truly,

JOHN BEDDOE.

### OBITUARY.

The death of Miss Maria Catherine Innes is announced as having happened in the last week of December, at her residence in Thorne-road, South Lambeth, in the 85th year of her age. This lady was the last survivor of three maiden sisters, the daughters of a gentleman who, though a cadet of the noble house of Roxburghe, came up to London to push his fortunes in trade, and carried on a business near the corner of Chancery-lane and Fleet-street. Left orphans at an early age, and being fond of heraldic and genealogical pursuits, in 1827 they brought out jointly a little Peerage, which was named "Sams's Peerage," after its publisher in St. James's-street, but which three years later had its title altered to that of "Lodge," having been placed by the Misses Innes under the ostensible editorship of Mr. Edmund Lodge, Norroy King of Arms. The work obtained the patronage of the Duchess of Kent and of her daughter the Princess Victoria, and it has retained the special patronage of Her Majesty down to the present hour. The Misses Innes continued to edit "Lodge" till about 15 years ago, when two of them died, and the third became afflicted with partial blindness.

MISS WATSON.—All who are familiar with the history of women's work at University College, London, will deeply regret the loss of its most promising mathematical student. Ellen Watson died at Grahamstown, Cape of Good Hope, after a few days' illness, on the 3rd of December last, at the age of twenty-four, and we cannot record the event without saying a few words of her short but

interesting life. The daughter of Mr. William Watson, for many years mathematical teacher at University College School, and afterwards the head of a boy's school, near Reading, she early received careful training, and for some time was a pupil of Miss Buss's, at the North London Collegiate School for Girls. She was a favourite pupil of the late Professor W. K. Clifford, at University College, and carried off the highest scholarship for mathematics in a mixed class of men and women. The year before last she passed her examination for the first B.Sc., at London University; but her health was already failing, and the doctors would not allow her to read for Honours. She left for the Cape in the summer of 1879, and her health seemed to be much improved by the change of climate. She was able to teach and to make many friends, who will join with those she left in England in mourning her loss. It was not only the intellectual capabilities of Miss Watson which made her so valuable as a worker, but her extreme sweetness of disposition and the perfect taste and wonderful tact with which her actions were always characterised. Her death is a public loss, and is deeply felt by all who were privileged to share her friendship.

#### THE BREAD REFORM LEAGUE.

A conference on a novel subject was held at the Mansion House on December 17th, the Lord Mayor being in the chair. The League is chiefly indebted for its existence to the zealous exertions of Miss Yates, the Hon. Secretary, who has lectured often lately upon the importance of placing wholesome bread within the reach of the working classes. It is well known to the medical faculty that the ordinary white bread of London shops is not only more wasteful than whole meal bread, but does not contain nearly the same nutriment qualities. The League proposes to educate the public taste upon this important subject, and to appoint, if possible, inspectors whose duty shall be to see that the purchaser when he orders wheat meal bread, shall at least get what he asks for. We have often pointed out that women must adopt the same

methods of public organization and extended combination that are used by political parties, if they want to effect any extended improvement in social matters. Miss Yates is carrying on a most womanly work in her organization of this League, and she will have the sympathy of all that large class of ladies who are interested in the sanitary condition of their less instructed neighbours. In her opening address she explained her objects:—

The Bread Reform League had been organised because the present English bread did not nourish as it ought to do, a large portion of the nutrient properties of the wheat having been extracted. This would be still more serious if bread were the only food of the people. The rich did not suffer much harm, because they supplied the place of the lost phosphates with milk, eggs, and other things, but it was a very serious matter for the poor, and it was no wonder that so many of their children should be weak, stunted, and rickety, when, in addition to sanitary disadvantages, they were deprived of the most nutritious elements which bread was capable of containing. She was not advocating a solely bread diet, though there was no doubt that if people would eat more farinaceous food—by which she did not mean merely starch, but such things as oatmeal, maccaroni and wheatmeal—they would find that they were able to do a much greater amount both of physical and mental work. Wheat-meal bread could not be too strongly recommended for growing children, for nature had stored in the grain of wheat everything that was necessary for healthy nourishment. The fault lay with the people, who had been ignorantly contented with half a loaf instead of a whole one. What was now wasted would abundantly nourish many persons who were at present half starved. In conclusion, Miss Yates said the League was an uncommercial body, seeking only to interest the public in the question, but it would be seen that something was being done when she stated that already the council had received communications from 140 bakers who had an aggregate weekly sale of about 15,000 quartern loaves.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.—The question of female suffrage has been raised in the chemical Society. It is proposed by Dr. Russell and others to admit women to the Fellowship of the Society. This proposal Mr. Perkin and others oppose, on the ground, among others, that the new Fellows might even become Members of the Council, a consequence from which the proposers do not shrink.—*Manchester Guardian*.

THE GOLD MEDAL, together with a prize of ten guineas offered by the Council of Trinity College,

London, for the best essay on "Middle Class Education: its Influence on Commercial Pursuits," has been awarded to Miss Agnes Amy Bulley, secretary of the College for Women, Manchester.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.—Miss A. E. Yule, daughter of Col. Yule, is, the *Athenaeum* says, engaged in investigations regarding the physical geography of some parts of Greece and Turkey.

THE Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, has made a further grant of £4000 towards fitting up the St. Katherine's Training College, at Tottenham, for female pupil teachers.

SEPARATION OF MARRIED PEOPLE.—The *Law Times* says: "Husbands and wives, in their quarrels, occupy so much of the time of the Courts, that it is important that they should know when they can and when they cannot agree upon separation. With great distinctness the Court of Appeal has laid down that prospective agreements during cohabitation are invalid. Husband and wife must be living apart, and such living apart must be consensual severance, *pro tanto*, of the nuptial bond."

A PROPOSAL was lately started to present Miss Elizabeth Twining with something, as a mark of regard and appreciation from the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Twickenham, for all the kindly works done among them by herself and family. It will take the form of a portrait of herself, to be placed in St. John's Hospital, of which she is the foundress, and which was lately opened by the Princess Mary of Teck. A committee with Mrs. Charles F. Heneage as Hon. Sec. supported the suggestion.

SOLDIERS' DAUGHTERS' HOME.—On the 3rd of December, a new wing of this Home which is situated in Hampstead, was opened in the presence of many friends of the charity. The present number of girls in the Home is 186.

EDINBURGH SCHOOL OF COOKERY.—The subjects taught during the session 1880-81 are: 1. Cookery, demonstration, and practice. 2. Ironing, clear starching, and the French method of doing up fine lace. 3. German method of cutting out dresses, &c. 4. Ambu-

lance lectures on first aid to the injured. 5. Physiology and health. A small library of the leading books on food, cookery, and physiology has been formed for the use of students.

THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.—An illuminated address from the Irish Relief Committee was presented to Her Grace on January 7th. In her reply she said that but for the assistance rendered her by a number of Irish ladies, the distress could not have been alleviated in the way it was. She was sorry that the measures for relief which had been taken had not brought peace to the country. It is stated that it was the desire of the Committee to present the Duchess with a diamond necklace, but this she had refused to accept.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

- "The Guests of Flowers," by Mrs. Meekirke.—*Griffiths & Farren.*  
"The Good St. Louis and his Times," by Mrs. Bray.—*Griffiths & Farren.*  
"Kind Hearts," by Mrs. J. B. Firth.—*Griffiths & Farren.*  
"Starlight Stories," by Fanny Lablache.—*Griffiths & Farren.*  
"Arnold Leigh," by Mrs. Digby Lloyd.—*Tinsley.*  
"A Twisted Skein," by Esther Ayr.—*Tinsley.*  
"Jeannette," by Mary C. Rowsell.—*Hurst & Blackett.*  
"Early Christian Architecture in Ireland," by Margaret Stokes.—*George Bell.*  
"Cervantes," by Mrs. Oliphant.—*Blackwood.*  
"A Lady's Tour in Corsica," by Gertrude Forbes.—*Bentley.*  
"The Freres," by Mrs. Alexander.—*Bentley.*  
"Children at Jerusalem," by Mrs. Holman Hunt.—*Ward & Lock.*  
"Bound by the Law," by Helen Weaché.—*Ellersen & Co.*  
"Our Holiday in the East," by Mrs. G. Sumner.—*Hurst & Blackett.*  
"Unknown Hungary," translated by Mrs. O. Brodie.—*Bentley.*  
"Past Hours," by Mrs. Sartoris.—*Bentley.*  
"History of the Zulu War," by Frances Colenso.—*Chapman & Hall.*  
"Aunt Hepsy's Foundling," by Mrs. Leith Adams.—*Chapman & Hall.*
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## REGISTERED MEDICAL WOMEN.

*The following is a complete list to December, 1880.*

1858. Dr. ELIZABETH BLACKWELL (M.D. Geneva, New York), Rock House, Hastings.
1866. Mrs. GARRETT ANDERSON (M.D. Paris), L.S.A., 4, Upper Berkeley Street, Portman Square, W.
1877. Dr. ELIZA DUNBAR (M.D. Zurich), 4, Buckingham Villas, Clifton, Bristol.
- Mrs. FRANCES HOGGAN (M.D. Zurich), 7, Trevor Terrace, London, S.W.
- " Dr. SOPHIA JEX-BLAKE (M.D. Berne), 4, Manor Place, Edinburgh.
- " Mrs. ATKINS (M.D. Zurich), 68, Abbey Road, London, N.W.
- " Dr. EDITH PECHEY (M.D. Berne), 8, Park Square, Leeds.
1878. Dr. ANNIE BARKER (M.D. Paris), 7, Calthorpe Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
- " Dr. ANN CLARK (M.D. Berne), Childrens' Hospital, Birmingham.
- " Dr. AGNES MACLAREN (M.D. Montpelier), 3, Walker Street, Edinburgh.
- " Dr. ANNA DAHMS (M.D. Paris), 294, Oxford Street, Manchester.
1879. Miss WATERSTON, Medical Missionary in Livingstonia, Africa.
- " Dr. ALICE KER (M.D. Berne), The Childrens' Hospital, Birmingham.
- " Dr. ELIZA McDONOGH (M.D. Zurich), Zurich.
1880. Mrs. MARSHALL (M.D. Paris), 2, St. John's Gardens, Notting Hill, W.
- " Mrs. CHAPLIN AYRTON (M.D. Paris), 68, Sloane Street, London, S.W.
- " Mrs. FOGGO.
- " Mrs. GRANT, 15, Comeragh Road, West Kensington.
- " Miss ALICE VICKERY, 333, Albany Road, S.E.
- " Miss BUTLER, Medical Missionary in India.
- " Mrs. RUSHBROOK, 145, Seven Sisters' Road, N.W.

All but the two first-named ladies are licentiates or members of the King's and Queen's College of Physicians, Ireland, and as such registered in Great Britain.

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN offers an Autumn Scholarship to be competed for on the 26th and 27th of September, 1881, value £30. Apply to Mrs. Thorne.

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

THE law empowering the erection of girls' colleges at the joint expense of the State and local authorities in France, has been promulgated. This is the first step taken by the State for the benefit of female education above that of elementary schools, but local action will be required to put the law in operation. This scheme provides for scholarships, and for religious instruction, to be given out of school hours, if solicited by parents, by ministers of religion. Each establishment is to be under the authority of a lady director, while the teachers may be of both sexes. Accommodation may be provided for boarders, if agreed to between the Municipalities and the State. The Legitimists regard the scheme as designed to withdraw girls from Catholic influence.

THE examinations for the degree of *bacheliere* took place last month at the Sorbonne; 175 obtained their degree *es sciences*, among whom is a young lady, Mlle. Sarante. The Faculty of Letters gave degrees to 364, among whom is a young coloured lady, Mlle. M. Dubois, who already last year had obtained her diploma of *bacheliere es sciences*. In philosophy 313 obtained degrees, two being ladies, Mlle. Robert, a Parisian, and Mlle. Herodinof, a Russian, who is now studying medicine. Of five ladies who went up for the Sorbonne Examination only one failed.—*Droit des Femmes*.

AT Aix two sisters, daughters of a Professor at the University, Bertha and Julia Rochas, have obtained the diploma of *bachelieres es lettres*.

AT Rennes, Mlle. Claire Dapailly de Fongères, has obtained the diploma of *bacheliere es sciences*.

Mlle. ROBERT who passed the first part of her examination so brilliantly a short time since, after only two years' instruction in the classics, has been quite as successful in the second and scientific division, showing quite as great an aptitude for mathematics as she did for Latin and Greek.

MDME. THIERS, the widow of the first President of the present French Republic, was born on the 4th of November, 1821. Her father was M. Dosne, of Aix in Provence, who was established in



Paris as a merchant, and by his connections and pecuniary aid, helped M. Thiers in his profession as a barrister. His eldest daughter married M. Thiers in 1835, when she was only sixteen years of age, and his younger daughter, Felicie, joined the household after M. Dosne's death. She was a devoted wife, and it is said that when once in 1870, they were together in a train which ran off the line near Tours, she precipitated herself between M. Thiers and the lower side of the compartment, that her body might break the fall. She became a widow on September 3rd, 1877.

MDLLE. DE MONTGOLFIER, who died on the 16th inst. at the age of 91, was the daughter of Etienne de Montgolfier, the inventor of the balloon. The father, who was the scion of an opulent commercial family of Lyons, was ennobled by Louis XVI. for his scientific inventions, of which the balloon was but one; and the daughter, who survived him for 81 years, lived to see communication maintained by balloons during the siege of Paris. In 1870 Mdle. de Montgolfier resisted all persuasion to quit Paris on the approach of the Prussians. She lived on the south side of the city—the side exposed to the Prussian batteries, and she remained with her maid and a youth in her service, the only tenants of a large, old house of many flats, whence every other had fled. Old as she was, even then she went incessantly to visit the wounded in the ambulances, and was found at the end of the siege to have given away all her house linen and every article useful for the sick. Mdle. de Montgolfier lived in the summer at La Celle St. Cloud.—*Times*.

THE funds which were subscribed by the Austro-Hungarians in Paris for a wedding present for the Archduke Rodolphe, are at his express request to be put to a charitable use, and a fund will be instituted under the patronage of a number of Austro-Hungarian ladies, entitled "Fondation Stephanie," for the relief of their needy fellow countrymen resident in Paris.

#### BELGIUM.

On December 14th, after two days' trial, twelve persons were condemned to various terms of imprisonment, ranging from six years to one year, on charges arising out of the traffic in English girls for immoral purposes. These girls have in most instances been decoyed to Belgium under the false pretence of procuring them employment as governesses. Some of their victims had been induced to register themselves under assumed names, falsely declaring themselves to be older than they were; many of them were absolutely ignorant of any language but their own. It is to be hoped that the prosecutors of these villains will not rest till this infamous traffic is fairly done away. Meanwhile, it cannot be too clearly understood that no invitation from a pretended agent for obtaining situations for young girls abroad can be safely responded to without good references to known and trusted persons. They should never consent to go abroad at all, except to the residences of people who are known to their friends.

#### ITALY.

Mdlle. Maria Velleda Farne has received her diploma from the University of Turin as Doctor of Medicine and Surgery.

GERMANY.

The anniversary of the death of Princess Alice was observed at Darmstadt both by sovereign and subjects with the mournful honours due to her memory. The Crown Princess of Germany, who was staying with her brother-in-law, went to the mausoleum of her deceased sister on the Rosenhöhe, and afterwards attended the anniversary service held in the hospital erected through the instrumentality of the deceased, and perhaps the noblest and most enduring monument to her memory.

THE *Deutscher Frauen Anwalt* says that an Industrial School for Girls has been opened during the past year in Wiesbaden by Frau Susette von Eynern. There were at first only 19 scholars, but the number has increased to 134. They learn needlework, dressmaking, and millinery, knitting, lace-making, embroidery, &c.

AUSTRIA.

PRAGUE.—The *Narodni Listy* says that Miss Bohuslava Keck, a native of this town, who studied medicine at Zurich, and passed her examinations and obtained her diploma with great credit, has returned to Prague and commenced to practise there.

RUSSIA.

In a Congress recently held at St. Petersburg by naturalists and physicians, the novelty was experienced of having a lady chosen as president of one of the sections. At the proposal of Professor Sæwerzon, Miss Perejasslawzewa, was with acclamation unanimously chosen to preside at the Ornithological section. This lady, who is well known for her researches in zoology, filled her post with great tact and skill.—*Frauen Anwalt*.

AMERICA.

CALIFORNIA.—Women are entering very fully into professions and other business in California. Last winter Mrs. Foltz, a lawyer, occupied the position of assistant clerk in the legislature; Mrs. Ives was also an assistant. There was a lady postmistress and there are a number of ladies who are trustees for schools; there are three women lawyers, and several women physicians. One novel business is that of superintending and managing a foundry, which is done by a young lady, Miss McKenzie, in San Jose. Her father died, leaving the family in very poor circumstances; the sons were worthless and unable to do anything, so the daughter took the business, and now carries it on very successfully and creditably.

COLLEGES FOR WOMEN IN CANADA.—In a paper read before the Teachers' Association, Dr. Kemp stated that there are now ten ladies' Colleges in the Dominion, besides those which ladies were allowed to attend, which were not devoted to the sex exclusively. In these different colleges not less than 1,000 ladies were receiving instruction, at an expenditure in the past of about 600,000 dols. The pupils who attended the ladies' colleges were frequently desirous of becoming teachers, and these could not spare the time or meet the expense of a long course of study such as is demanded at the universities.

VERMONT.—Two bills in which women are concerned, have been

brought before the legislature. One is to give married women the right to vote and hold office in school districts. The bill provides that any married woman twenty-one years of age having property, real or personal, in her own right, and set in the grand list in the town and school district where she resides to the amount of two dollars, shall vote and hold office. The second is to declare women to be eligible to the offices of town clerk and town superintendent.

NEW YORK.—The women of the state of New York were on the 12th of October, for the first time called to take their share in the School Board election. They responded in great numbers to the call. They voted usually in a different room to that in which men voted. At Saratoga three ladies have been elected.

WOMEN INVENTORS.—From details in an American paper it appears that on an average sixty patents a year are taken out by women in the United States. Among the novelties patented by women during the year ending last July was a dress protector, a washing machine, a sewing machine treadle, a washing basin, a window cleaner, a sofa bed, and a milk cooler. The patents, as will be seen from these examples, principally relate to women and their work.

THE DIVORCE LAWS IN AMERICA.—A man named Sloan, says the *New York Tribune*, married in Ohio, and removing to Iowa, procured a divorce by the aid of a Chicago lawyer, and married again. The Iowa Courts held the divorce to be illegal, and the second marriage void, but the Superior Court of Illinois has just decided the divorce to be valid and the second marriage lawful. It follows from this conflict of judicial authority that Sloan is the lawful husband of the Ohio woman as long as he stays in Iowa, but becomes the lawful husband of the Iowa woman the moment he crosses the Mississippi River into Illinois. The only way to obviate such absurd situations is by a uniform marriage and divorce law, passed by Congress, and applicable to every foot of the territory of the United States. This is required by sound public policy, and public sentiment is beginning to demand it.

#### CHINA.

MRS. AH JOY, as the name might imply, is a lady from China. She is the wife of a gentleman who makes segars in Sacramento, California. She speaks English fluently, and has good looks. This almond-eyed beauty is on her way to the East, and intends to deliver a series of lectures relating to the Chinese in general, and the Chinese women in particular.—*Birmingham Post*.

We copy from the *Northern Whig*, the following striking instance of the genius for government displayed by an eastern princess, the Chinese Empress of the west. "The young Emperor is a minor. Two Empresses govern, the one having the department of the west, the other that of the east. In the last century, as some of our readers may be aware, the two principal Secretaries of State of our Sovereigns were supposed to have respectively what were called the northern and southern departments. The Chinese Empress of the west has had to decide whether the treaty of Livadia should be carried out, or whether it should be repudiated, with the apparently inevitable consequence of a war with Russia. The Empress, becom-

ing thoroughly sick of the delays in deciding the question interposed by high officials on the Council of Regency, declared that all those dignitaries in favour of war with Russia were to sign an act giving up to the State their property to pay the Russian indemnity in the event of the war being unsuccessful. The announcement was received with dismay. A change of opinion was immediately effected. All the Jingoës in the Chinese Council suddenly abandoned their warlike proclivities and became earnest advisers of peace. The Chinese Empress of the west is evidently a woman of genius, a born ruler of men.

#### AUSTRALIA.

AUSTRALIAN WILD FLOWERS.—The *Sydney Morning Herald* of November 4, says:—"Miss Marianne North, who, it will be remembered, came to these colonies to paint specimens of Australian wild flowers, has, so far as this colony is concerned, completed the agreeable task which her combined admiration for nature and art constrained her to execute. She came to New South Wales with an introduction from Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the Governor, but in consequence of his Excellency being absent she had no opportunities for an interview with him. The Government, however, honoured her credentials, and gave all the assistance which lay in their power. The introduction was accompanied by a letter from Sir Joseph D. Hooker, the Director of the Botanical Gardens at Kew, who spoke most favourably of the lady's artistic powers and the valuable assistance she was rendering to botanical science. During her stay Miss North travelled through the district of Illawarra, visited Camden Park, and also the residences of several families in the Blue Mountains and other localities, painting, as opportunities permitted her, the distinctive flowers which she not only met with on the ordinary thoroughfares, but explored hills and valleys in quest of. The lady does not intend the boundaries of Australia to circumscribe her present intentions. Her desire is to paint, so far as is possible, the wild flowers of the world, and she has now proceeded to Victoria to secure for it that furtherance which her devotion to her task is likely to acquire."

#### INDIA.

It is reported from Bombay that native girls are being induced to present themselves at public examinations, either for entrance to the university, or for admission to the public service. One young lady, Miss Buchoba, Rastamjee Master, who obtained the scholarship offered a few years ago by Miss Mary Carpenter to native girls, lately passed the second-class examination for admission to the public service. Another Parsee girl, the daughter of Mr. Dhunjeebhoy Nussawadjee Wadia presented herself at the recent Matriculation examination of the Bombay University.

THE Maharanee of Cashmere is dead. She was greatly beloved by her people, and her death has caused profound grief in Cashmere.

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## PARAGRAPHS.

INFLUENCE OF RUSSIAN WOMEN ON TEMPERANCE.—They (the village communities) even possess a privilege which by a small party is still coveted in vain for parishes in England; that, namely, of deciding by a majority of votes whether or not public houses shall be kept open. But if they are their own licensing magistrates, it is to be feared that they look with too kindly an eye on the tavern-keepers who come before them to ask for renewals. The advocates of female suffrage will be interested to hear that were the decision of the question left to the women of the commune, it would certainly be given against the publican. Indeed, though legally the women have no voice in the government of the village, they sometimes take upon themselves to protest against the resolutions passed by their husbands in favour of keeping open the spirit-shops; and an address in this sense was agreed to four years ago by the women of Olkhovo, a village of Novogorod, and duly forwarded to the Governor of that province. "Whereas," said the unhappy women (their petition was published in the *Golos* or *Voice*, of St. Petersburg)—"whereas, our husbands have empowered Karnila Lushin to keep open a public-house during the year 1875, we hereby certify that Karnila Lushin, first made them drunk with brandy. Consequently, our children have no bread, we have sometimes no homes, and for a long time we have paid no *obrok* to our landlords. Our husbands are intoxicated, not only on holidays, but all the week through. At the same time, we and our children who can work, have no rest for gaining our bread. We are reduced to the necessity of electing our peasant-wife, Matrona Saveleva, as a deputy to the highest authorities, that she may ask them to do us the benefit to cancel this act of our husbands."

In other parts of Russia the women have shown a similar disposition to take affairs into their own hands, and sometimes, on similar provocation. In the province of Kalouga, however, as stated by the local *Gazette*, so many men are absent from the villages that if their

wives and mothers were not to take part in the communal assemblies, nothing could be done. It would even be impossible to form the legal quorum of thirteen, which in one village was composed of five men and eight women. According to this authority, the presence of a majority of women in the assembly has an excellent effect. "The women," says the *Kalouga Gazette*, "do not drink, like the men, and cannot, like them, be corrupted by liquor." At a village in the district of Taross, a man presumably unfitted for the office of churchwarden, to which he aspired, gave drink to the male peasants, and gained their votes. But the women of the village did not drink, and seeing what sort of a man he was, rejected him. The journalist further affirms that a retired soldier, arriving at the district town of Taross, to draw his pension, and having to present a certificate of identity from the assembly of his village, produced one on which the signatures were for the most part those of women.

Village assemblies, however, are at the bottom of the scale of self-governing organizations; and whatever good may be done by women at their communal meetings, they would not be admitted to the assemblies of *volosts*, or groups of villagers, at which the village communities are represented by deputies.—*The Russians at Home and the Russians Abroad*, by H. S. Edwards.

REGULATION OF SERVANTS' REGISTRATION OFFICES.—  
The *Daily News* says on this subject:—

A Bill for the regulation, by licence or otherwise, of servants' registration offices is one of the measures, we believe, that are likely to be introduced in the coming Session. It will not, indeed, be a Government measure. Her Majesty's Ministers are not expected to have much time to spare for any legislation that is possibly avoidable, and the utmost for which the promoters of this particular measure can hope is that it may obtain all the facilities that official help can give it. But although, being reasonable, we could not expect the Government to undertake to deal with such a subject in the coming Session, we do not by any means intend to imply that it is not a subject of great importance. It concerns the interests of some of those who in all the whole community are perhaps the most helpless, the least befriended, the most easily preyed upon, and the most cruelly victimised. We speak of the women, young, elderly, and old, who pour into London from the English provinces, from Wales, from Ireland, and from Scotland, in search of employment as domestic servants. A good deal of what we have to say would apply

likewise, and hardly less, to a class who stand higher, socially and in education—the women who seek employment as nursery governesses. For the moment, however, we are dealing particularly with the women who come to London in the hope of making a living as domestic servants. For their supposed accommodation and protection, the metropolis swarms with registration offices. Some of these, of course, are respectable and well-conducted institutions, carrying out in the most genuine way the objects which they profess to fulfil. The registration office at the Soho Bazaar, for instance, is an excellent institution, and there are many offices which, though not so well known, are conducted in as satisfactory a manner. But it is unfortunately only too certain that there are a vast number of places professing to be registration offices which are but frauds of the grossest character. Some of these advertise largely in any newspapers which, ignorant of their real nature, are induced to publish their advertisements. They boldly offer special inducements to women from the country looking for situations as domestic servants in town. Some credulous girl sees one of these advertisements and is tempted to put together what money and clothes she has and hurry to London. Perhaps she enters the metropolis for the first time. She finds out the registration office, and learns that the indispensable preliminary to any arrangement is the payment of a fee, perhaps five shillings—a great sum to her. Of course, she must pay it. What else could she do? Having committed herself to her enterprise, she must not let five shillings stand between her and a comfortable place. She pays her money; and then, after a parade of inquiry on the part of the person who keeps the office, she finds that there is no place to suit her. She is fortunate if she be shrewd enough even then to suspect the genuineness of the transaction, and have money enough to find a home for herself, or have friends in London who will shelter her while she is seeking for employment in some other way. But suppose she has no friends in London and no money, where is she to turn to then? Some of those fraudulent places profess to lodge and shelter women while they are waiting for a situation. A girl accepts the opportunity, glad to be housed anywhere. She is taken in and days go on and no situation is found for her, and whatever little money she has soon runs out and she has to go in debt. How does that end? Sometimes in the lodging-house keeper simply detaining her box and her clothes, and turning her into the streets, as the harpy in the “Vicar of Wakefield” proposed to do with poor Livy, Dr. Primrose’s unhappy daughter. But in the worst cases there is even worse than this. It would be idle to doubt that an infamous traffic in white slaves—it can hardly be called by any other name—is even still carried on in London. Young women when reduced almost to desperation by such conditions as we have described are suddenly told of excellent situations unexpectedly ready for them. They are eager for any honest way of rescuing themselves from utter poverty; they are perhaps childishly ignorant of the ways of town. They accept the terms offered; they enter the houses where they are led to believe that good situations await them, and they find before long that they have been shamefully deceived. Can they extricate themselves with honour and get free return to light and honesty from that terrible

"central darkness" which De Quincey apostrophised, and into which he hoped that sometimes the ray of a purifying blessing from without might follow some imprisoned victim and rescue her? Some of the women thus entrapped have, let us hope, the nerve, the wits, and the resolute purpose to enable them to escape. But it is not always easy, even physically easy. The prisoners in some cases are closely watched. Then the girls are penniless, perhaps, and have no clothes and no friends, and do not know London, and dread the gaunt, dark, unfriendly streets, and do not know where they could go, and possibly think that the mere fact of their having once even in utter ignorance crossed the threshold of such a place is fatal to their chance of ever again obtaining a respectable situation. Anyhow, the grim fact is that girls thus entrapped do not always escape.

BURMESE WOMEN.—The following extracts from Captain Forbes' book on British Burma, and its People," may, perhaps, be of interest to the readers of your *Women's Suffrage Journal*, as they describe the condition of women in the only Asiatic country where the two sexes enjoy comparatively equal rights. I may add that my personal observations during my residence in Rangoon, in every way confirm Captain Forbes' statements. He says: "In Burma, women enjoy a much freer and higher position than elsewhere in the East; indeed, in some matters, they have attained rights that their sisters in England are still seeking to obtain, or have only lately gained. The fortune that a woman brings on marriage is (by law, at least) carefully kept separate for the benefit of her children or heirs; she can acquire separate property during coverture—by inheritance, or by her own industry—without any deeds of settlement. In case of ill-treatment or other just cause, she can divorce herself from her husband, in the presence of the Elders, taking all her separate, and a certain portion of her jointly acquired property. Among no class in Burma is seclusion of females practised; those of the highest rank have the same freedom of action as the ladies of Europe. Indeed, it may be said that from the easy indolent disposition of the men, and their own energy and natural *savoir faire*, the women rule the roast in Burma. As with us, the husband raises the wife to his own status; even more so, perhaps, as in Burma the wife popularly shares her husband's official position to a certain extent. For instance, a revenue official's lady



will receive tax money and give the receipt, while a native police officer's wife, in his absence, will order out in pursuit of a criminal the *posse comitatus* of the village, arrest, and send him off to Court, quite as a matter of course. No Burman would venture to use the coarse familiarity towards his female acquaintances that is common among our own lower order. Without pretending to the gallantry, supposed to be characteristic of Western nations, the Burman men treat women and children in a crowd with a consideration that more civilised races might copy. Polygamy is legal, but, except among officials and the wealthy, is seldom practised. In ordinary life, a man with more than one wife is talked of as not being a very respectable person. This seems also to have struck the early European travellers in Burma, for we find many of them, like Nicolo Conti, in 1430, remarking—'This people take onlie one wife.' Another writer, Mr. Symes, tells us that 'Women in Burma are not only good housewives, but likewise manage the more important mercantile concerns of their husbands, and attend to their interests in all outdoor transactions. They are industrious to the greatest degree, and are said to be good mothers, and seldom, from inclination, unfaithful wives. It appears, therefore, that the comparative equality prevailing in Burma between the two sexes has not had that injurious effect upon the housewifery virtues of the women, which is so often prophesied by English opponents of the emancipation of women. In education the women of Burma are greatly behind their brothers; but this arises from all the schools being at the great Bhuddist monasteries, and as the priests or phoongyus are so strictly vowed to celibacy that they may not even *look* at a woman, it is impossible for them to undertake female education."

A few copies of the January, 1880, number are desired. If any subscriber, who does not bind up or require it, will send it to the office, full price will be sent.

For the price of a bound copy for the year, see advertisement page.

THE  
ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.

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ART I.—AMERICAN WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEM-  
PERANCE UNION.

TEMPERANCE work in England engages the attention of a very large number of active and earnest women. Their Temperance Associations, whether singly or in union with men, have brought an immense mass of public opinion over to their side. Their meetings are well attended, their lecturers eloquent, their publications ably conducted, their army of workers most zealous. Yet it is no disgrace to them to say that the women belonging to the Temperance Unions of America have organised a wider basis of operations, and have achieved, to judge by the paper now before us, a still larger measure of success.

A Convention of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union was held in Boston last October, and was presided over by Mrs. Frances E. Willard, who in her address summed up the work done in America during this, "the most encouraging year the world has ever seen in the history of temperance reform." Our American friends assure us that no inconsiderable part of this success is due to Mrs. Willard's own exertions, and certainly the organisation of which she is the acknowledged head, owes much of its excellence to her untiring activity. She observed that in Maine the last Legislature had strengthened the prohibitory laws, which also were placed before the people for their vote in Iowa and Kansas. The crusade State of Ohio sent the largest petition its annals show, asking the ballot.

for women on all temperance questions, while under a local ordinance prepared by a leading lawyer, and circulated by the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Illinois, women have actually voted in five municipalities on the question of license; and all of them—the high and low, illiterate and educated, Catholic and Protestant—voted “to close the dram-shop door over against their homes.”

Pioneer work has also been done in Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Dakota, Wyoming, Utah, and California, by Mrs. Foster of Iowa, Miss Morison of Indiana, Miss Cleveland of Michigan, Mrs. Clardy of St. Louis, Mrs. Willard herself, and others. In Colorado and Delaware new auxiliaries have been established. In the South very little progress has yet been made, but in the West a new method of extending the work is being developed by Mrs. H. Skelton, an educated German lady, and Mrs. Laura Fixen, an educated Dane. These ladies circulate literature in “their own tongue wherein they were born,” address large audiences of our German and Scandinavian population in their native languages, organize Unions and Reform Clubs, and pledge voters to the right course. Numerous petitions are sent in for a constitutional amendment in Michigan, Iowa, Kansas, and in Illinois a great effort is being made to enable women to give a vote on temperance questions.

Mrs. Willard draws special attention to the necessity of educating children in temperance principles. The boys are enlisting into the “Cold Water Army,” yet, nevertheless, drunkenness is still so common among them, that “I am told of their degeneracy in scholarship, so that the percentage of girls who graduate and who take honours is steadily gaining on that of boys.” “We cannot hope,” she continues, “to make much headway with School Boards until the visitation of educational institutions and teachers’ conventions of all grades, the incitement of women to the duty of using the school ballot in the States where it has been granted them, and of asking for it in all the others, also the addressing of School Boards, and the general public, shall be the especial occupation of at least one well equipped

worker in each State. To influence children she suggests the following scheme of work:

1. FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.—Scientific Temperance text-books in normal schools, seminaries, public and private colleges, and professional schools.

2. JUVENILE WORK.—(a) In Sabbath schools. (b) in public schools, (c) in juvenile temperance schools, and Cold Water Armies.

3. TEMPERANCE LITERATURE.—The circulation of *Our Union*, official organ of National W. C. T. U. (published at 53 Bible House, New York). To be enlarged, enriched in its departments, increased in price, and its editor and publisher elected by the Convention. (b) The study of temperance literature by topics in our local Unions. (c) Its circulation in the homes. (d) Its circulation in public audiences, adapting the selections to the speaker's theme. (e) A temperance column regularly maintained in local press. (f) Communications sent to church, Sunday school, educational, and medical press. (g) Literature boxes kept supplied with leaflets and hand-bills in depots, markets, engine-houses, stores, offices, public buildings, barber shops, &c. Illustrated juvenile leaflets a speciality. (h) Invitations to meetings, arguments for total abstinence, appeals to voters, &c., sent out through post-office and in dry goods bundles. (i) A loan library of best temperance books and pamphlets to be personally circulated among the reading class.

4. PLEDGE SIGNING.—(a) The home pledge. (b) The circulation of the pledge *from seat to seat* in public audiences. (c) Offering the pledge in Gospel meetings. (d) Securing signatures in every department of juvenile work.

5. INTRODUCING our work to influential bodies, as ecclesiastical, Sunday school, educational, and medical conventions.

6. ENLISTING corporations and employers to require total abstinence in their employees.

To carry on this work, she suggests that they should appoint:—

A Superintendent of Temperance Literature work.

A Superintendent of Public School and College work:

A Superintendent of Sunday School work.

A Superintendent of Juvenile work.

A publishing committee for *Our Union*, with an understanding that all National and State Superintendents and organizers will act as special agents for this paper, and that each local Union will annually appoint a local agent as one of its officers.

Standing committee on enlisting corporations, &c., in National and State Unions, for the purpose of introducing our work before influential bodies, the duty of National and State Corresponding Secretaries.

Next in order, if not in importance, is the Evangelistic work. We have often heard in England of the Ohio Crusade, when ladies, by holding prayer meetings, succeeded in shutting—for a time, at least—most of the liquor shops in that State. Mrs. Willard suggests, as a sorely needed part of Evangelistic work, the training of women “to conduct Gospel meetings, and to speak for Christ.” As means to further this branch of the temperance organisation, she enumerates:—

1. Preparing temperance Bible readings for regular meetings of the local auxiliary.

2. Holding Gospel Temperance Institutes for the training of women in methods of conducting evangelistic services. These to be held at County, District, and State Conventions whenever practicable.

3. Securing a *Union* temperance prayer-meeting of the churches once a quarter on regular prayer-meeting night.

4. Inviting pastors to preach upon temperance.

5. Theatre-meetings on Sabbath afternoon.

6. Depôt and out-door meetings.

7. Meetings for sailors.

8. Prison and jail work, meetings in almshouses and other charitable institutions.

9. Temperance Tabernacles for the people, on the Atlanta, Ill., plan.

10. Inducing church authorities to banish intoxicating wine from the Lord's table.

Committees, Superintendents, and Secretaries have also to be appointed for these subjects.

In social work, the influence of young women is most

powerful. Musical and literary entertainments, and mothers' meetings are obvious means by which they may help. We heard the other day in Belfast, that the influence of the Girls' Temperance Union was already driving the young men out of the drinking shops: "They did not like to be seen going in for a dram when all those nice-looking girls were walking about."

Under the head of Social Work, Mrs. Willard suggests:—

1. Parlour-meetings to enlist interest of the influential but indifferent, with autograph pledge-book.

2. Temperance receptions, and Lucy Hayes tea-parties, with autograph pledge-book. (Mrs. Hayes, the wife of the President, has done good service by refusing to have wine served up at the White House.)

3. Boys' clubs, for waifs in large cities and towns.

4. Mothers' Meetings.

5. Friendly Inns, temperance reading-rooms, and restaurants.

6. Glee clubs to cultivate an appreciation of temperance music, and to furnish it at public and social meetings.

7. Free lunches at the polls on election days, with pledges and literature.

8. Booths at State and County fairs with ice-water, lemonade, literature, mottoes, &c.; or lunch served and money made for the work.

Much legal work has to be done also. "No temperance woman can afford not to be a reader of the newspaper," Mrs. Willard says, and urges her hearers to do all they can to guide and control public opinion. The energetic President of the Convention recommends her hearers:—

1. To study existing laws and suggest measures for strengthening them.

2. To suggest suitable times and subjects for petition work on enforcement of law; on commissions, national, State, and local, to enquire into results of liquor traffic; on enforcing laws against Sabbath desecration; on using the educational vote in States that have granted this to women, and using it to secure temperance teaching in the schools; laws against the sale of intoxicants

at County and State fairs and other public gatherings; on petitions to State and national legislatures for constitutional amendments; prohibitory local-option, or home-protection statutes; petitions to municipal authorities for home-protection ballot in States where the laws render this practicable.

"We can hardly over-estimate," she continues, "the reflex educational influence of circulating petitions. Time thus invested is by no means lost, even if legislators and Municipal Councils disregard our plea. The right of petition was not conceded without a struggle, and the arguments used against granting it to women were identical with those now urged against placing the ballot in our hands."

Under the head of Preventive work are grouped all counter-attractions to the liquor saloons, such as Friendly Inns, Temperance Restaurants, and Reading Rooms; also Medical Meetings for women only, to be addressed, so far as possible, by women physicians, and the circulation of medical treatises on the injurious effect which intemperance in the parents may produce on the children.

Other means are suggested also by which the Union may extend its sphere:—

1. A system of Associated Charities, on the plan of the Germantown experiment.

2. Industrial and reform schools for women and girls (appeal to State Legislatures). In Michigan the Temperance Union induced the Legislature last year to grant 30,000 dollars for a girls' reform school.

3. Homes for inebriate women (State Legislatures).

4. Evening schools for employees. (This has already been done in a town in New Hampshire by the owner of the manufactory).

5. Establishing public fountains, free bathing-houses, gymnasia for women, all conducing to the formation of sanitary habits, and thus diminishing the thirst for stimulants (appeal to municipal authorities by petition for all these).

6. Introducing scientific instruction in public schools. In Rochester, New York, the Young Women's Temperance Society gives lessons to the public school children

after hours, awaiting the time when the proper authorities shall incorporate these lessons into the public system of public education.

7. Introducing temperance books and papers into public libraries.

Another result of the Union has been the appointment in one city of a woman official or "policeman" to attend the police courts and look after the interests of arrested women. This was done after a member of the Union had been thus employed for some time.

Every one of these separate branches of the work is to appoint its special Committees and Secretaries, whose duties are clearly defined, and one more necessary branch is mentioned, that whose office is to raise funds for the others. A penny a week from each woman united in the cause would soon—Mrs. Willard suggests—furnish them with the sinews of war, for many others like herself are volunteer workers, never having touched a penny's salary.

Where will they find a sufficiency of workers for this enormous organisation? Not by levying a draft upon the home women "to the neglect of those duties which, if performed with reverence and intelligence, will help humanity as no other efforts can. It is the glory of the women's temperance movement, that no Mrs. Jellaby has yet been attracted to our ranks." Mrs. Willard calls upon the "once anxious and aimless, but now cheery and efficient" Protestant sisterhood, the spinsters, who in this occupation will find an aim in life; the empty-hearted young women in homes of luxury; and the widows and desolate mothers whom intemperance and dissipation have deprived of their support and consolation. There will be no lack of workers.

To the overcrowded ranks of teacherdom (and here I can speak out of long experience) the invitation is, Come with us; we need each other. Hard as our work is, a teacher's occupation is harder still. 'Though I could point you to a score of women in our work who speak on an average once a day all the year round, who organize, write, and travel, without respite, and nearly all of whom were teachers once, their concurrent testimony would be that they are stronger, healthier, and in better spirits than ever in their lives before. The breezy life, the tonic of change, the inspiration of variety have much to do with this. Moreover, if one is in earnest, and has something to say, the average audience need have no terrors



for a woman who can instruct and hold the interest of a high-school class. Indeed, the former requires more stress of nerve, for your class instinctively matches its united intellectual vigour against its teacher and is full of questionings; while an audience is in receptive rather than combative mood, is also to the last degree good-natured, and cannot answer back! Let the voice of invitation go forth, then, to the teachers and young women in our colleges, certifying to them that in delightful service for Christ a new vocation is open to the persuaders of the race. Nor do I hesitate to predict the day as not far distant when we shall have scores of educated women, where we now have one, engaged in the sure and steady occupation of educating and refining public sentiment, with voice and pen, against the use of poisonous beverages.

All the methods of work suggested at the Boston Convention would not be suitable for England. Every country must shape its course by its own social conditions and modes of thought, and our English ladies do not need to copy servilely the details of an organisation suitable to our cousins across the Atlantic. But there are very many suggestions in Mrs. Willard's scheme that deserve study, and might be usefully adopted by the thousands of our own countrywomen who are desirous to take some share in helping on a good cause.

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## ART II.—THE MAHOMMEDAN LAW AS REGARDS WOMEN.

A BOOK entitled "The Personal Law of the Mahomedans" (W. H. Allen & Co.), has been recently published by Sye dAmeer Ali, Moulvie, M.A., LL.B., which is of considerable importance, as affecting English opinion on the future progress of Mahommedan countries. The work is one of great authority, for Syed Ameer Ali has been for some years Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta, and is Member of the Faculty of Law in the Calcutta University, and late Member of the Legislative Council of Bengal. He was for many years Lecturer on Mahommedan Law at the Presidency College. A knowledge of Mussulman law is in India even among educated Moslems, if not actually obso-

lete, extremely rare, and owing to an imperfect knowledge of Mussulman jurisprudence and manners, customs and usages, it is not infrequent to find cases decided by the highest Indian law courts against every principle of the Mahommedan law. This treatise is intended for the use of the practical lawyer and student, but there is much also in it that will interest the general reader. There are many legal schools among the Mahommedans, the two great religious sects of the Sunni and the Shiah having each its own code of personal law. Broadly speaking, the chief distinction between these sects is that the Shiahs are those who base their law only upon the teachings of the Koran and the oral precepts of Mahommed, as collected and handed down by his immediate family. There are many branches of this sect, and one of them, the Mutazalas, still further eliminates all recorded sayings of Mahommed as appear out of harmony with the general course of his teaching. On the other hand, the great religious sect of the Sunnis accept the entire traditions, and regard the concordant decisions of the successive Caliphs and of the general assemblies, as supplementing the Koranic rules and almost equal in authority to them, as modern Roman Catholics accept the decisions of the Œcumenical Councils as of nearly equal authority with the primary doctrines of the Christian teachers. It is evident that considerable differences in the Sunni and Shiah law must arise from these religious distinctions, and Syed Ameer Ali has, in the present work, carefully noted the variations.

Our chief concern with the book is in the remarkably good legal position of women under both branches of the Mahommedan law, forcibly contrasting with the disabilities under which they suffer in England and other Western countries, where, nevertheless, their social position is confessedly higher. How these legal advantages can have been compatible for so many centuries with the subordinate and debased condition of women which prevails all over the East, is a problem of which we must still seek the interpretation, through our Mahommedan friends; it may be a question of race, a product of the custom of seclusion

which is common to all Eastern countries, or, as Syed Ali suggests, the result of general want of culture. That it is not owing to the Koranic law becomes evident after reading this careful compilation, and the clear understanding and rigid enforcement of these laws would do very much in every Mahomedan country to improve the condition of women, and as a consequence of the whole people. In his preface Syed Ameer Ali thus opens his case :

The reforms instituted by Mahomed effected a vast and marked improvement in the position of women. Both among the Arabs and the Jews who inhabited the Peninsula of Arabia, the condition of women was extremely degraded. The Hebrew maiden, even in her father's house, stood in the position of a servant, her father could sell her if a minor. He, and after his death, his son, disposed of her at their will and pleasure. The daughter inherited nothing except in the extremest case. Among the Pagan Arabs a woman was considered a mere chattel, she formed an integral part of the estate of her husband or her father, and the widows of a man descended to his son or sons by right of inheritance, as any other portion of his patrimony. Hence the frequent unions between stepsons and mothers-in-law, which when subsequently forbidden by Islam, were branded under the name of *Nikah-al-Makt* (shameful or odious marriages).

The Pre-Islamite Arabs carried their aversion to women so far as to destroy, by burying alive, many of their female children. This fearful custom, which was most prevalent among the tribes of Koreish and Kendah, was denounced in burning terms by Mahomed, and was prohibited under severe penalties, along with the inhuman practice which they, in common with other nations of antiquity, observed of sacrificing children to their gods.

Under the Islamic laws, as will be shown in detail hereafter, a woman occupies a superior legal position to that of her English sister. As long as she is unmarried, she remains under the parental roof, and until she attains her majority she is, to some extent, under the control of the father or his representative. As soon, however, as she is of age, the law vests in her all the rights which belong to her as an independent human being. She is entitled to share in the inheritance of her parents along with her brothers, and though the proportion is different, the distinction is founded on a just comprehension of the relative circumstances of brother and sister. On her marriage she does not lose her individuality. She does not cease to be a separate member of society, and her existence does not "merge" in that of her husband. No doctrine of "coverture" is recognised, and her property remains hers in her individual right. She can sue her debtors in the open courts without the necessity of joining a next friend, or under cover of her husband's name. She continues to exercise, after she has passed from her father's house into her husband's home, all the rights which the law gives to men. All the

privileges which belong to her as a woman and a wife are secured to her, not by the courtesies that "come and go," but by the actual text in the book of law. She can alienate or devise her property without asking the leave of her husband. She can act as an administratrix or executrix, or be appointed a *Mutwalliah* (governor of a charitable endowment).

A Moslem marriage is a civil act, needing no mollah, requiring no sacred rite. The contract of marriage gives the man no power over the woman's person beyond what the law defines, and none whatever upon her goods and property. A Mussulman's wife retains in her husband's household all the rights which the law vests in her as a responsible member of society. She can be sued as a *feme sole*. She can receive property without the intervention of trustees. She has a distinct lien upon her husband's estate for her ante-nuptial settlement. Her rights as a mother do not depend for their recognition upon the idiosyncracies of individual judges. She can enter into binding contracts with her husband, and proceed against him in law if necessary. Her earnings acquired by her individual exertions cannot be wasted by a prodigal husband, nor can she be ill-treated with impunity by one who is brutal.

After reviewing the universal practice of polygamy among the nations of antiquity whether in the East or the West, Syed Ameer Ali passes to the restrictions which Mahommed placed upon this custom :

Mahommed enforced as one of the essential teachings of his creed, "respect for women." And his followers in their admiration of the virtues of his celebrated daughter, proclaimed her "the Lady of Paradise," as the representative of her sex. In the laws which the Arabian Prophet promulgated, he strictly prohibited the custom of conditional marriages, and though at first temporary marriages were tacitly allowed, in the third year of the Hijra, even these were forbidden. Mahommed secured to women, in his system, rights which they had not before possessed: he allowed them privileges the value of which will be more fully appreciated as time advances. He placed them on a footing of perfect equality with men in the exercise of all legal powers and functions. He restrained polygamy by limiting the maximum number of contemporaneous marriages, and by making absolute equity towards all obligatory on the man. It is worthy of note that the clause in the Koran which contains the permission to contract four contemporaneous marriages, is immediately followed by a sentence which cuts down the significance of the preceding passage to its normal and legitimate dimensions. The former passage says, "You *may* marry two, three, or four wives, but not more." The subsequent lines declare, "but if you cannot deal equitably and justly with all, you *shall* marry only one." The extreme importance of this proviso, bearing especially in mind the meaning which is attached to the word "equity" in the Koranic teaching, has not been lost sight of by the great thinkers of the Moslem world. Even so early as the third century of the era of the Hijra, during the reign of Al-Mamun, the first Motazalite doctors

taught that the developed Koranic laws inculcated monogamy. And though the cruel persecutions of the mad bigot, Mutawwakil, prevented the general diffusion of their teachings, the conviction is gradually forcing itself on all sides, in all advanced Moslem communities, that polygamy is as much opposed to the Islamic laws as it is to the general progress of civilised society and true culture. In India especially this idea is becoming a strong moral, if not a religious conviction, and many extraneous circumstances in combination with this growing feeling are tending to root out the existence of polygamy from among the Mussulmans. A custom has grown up in that country, which is largely followed by all classes of the community, of drawing up a marriage deed containing a formal renunciation on the part of the future husband, of any right or semblance of right which he might possess or claim to possess, to contract a second marriage during the existence of the first. This custom serves as a most efficacious check upon the growth and the perpetuation of the institution of polygamy. In India, more than ninety-five per cent. of Mahommedans are at the present moment, either by conviction or necessity, monogamists. Among the educated classes versed in the history of their ancestors, and able to compare it with the records of other nations, the custom is regarded with disapprobation amounting almost to disgust. In Persia, according to Colonel Macgregor's statement, only two per cent. of the population enjoy the questionable luxury of plurality of wives. It is earnestly to be hoped that, before long a general synod of Moslem doctors will authoritatively declare that polygamy, like slavery, is abhorrent to the laws of Islam.

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Taken as a whole her condition is not more unfavourable than that of many European women. Her comparatively backward condition is the result of want of culture among the community generally rather than of any especial feature in the Islamic laws or institutions. Her legal status is decidedly superior to that of European women. The social immunities she enjoys allows the fullest exercise on her part of the powers and privileges which the law gives to her. She acts, *if sui juris*, in all matters which relate to herself, and to her own property, in her own individual right without the intervention of husband and father. She appoints her own attorney, and delegates to him all the power she herself possesses. She enters into valid contracts with her husband and her male relations on a footing of equality. If she is ill-treated, she has a right to have the marriage tie dissolved. She is entitled to pledge the credit of her husband for the maintenance of herself and her children. She is able, even if holding a creed different to that of her husband, to claim the free and unfettered exercise of her own religious observances. If the husband is possessed of means, he is bound to place at his non-Moslem wife's disposal some conveyance to take her to her usual place of worship. He is debarred from molesting her in the smallest degree in the exercise of her faith; whilst, like a Moslem mother, she is entitled to the custody of her children. Her ante-nuptial settlement is her own by absolute right, and she can deal with it

according to her own will and pleasure. To become entitled to its enjoyment she requires no intermediaries, trustees, or next friends. When she is aggrieved by her husband, she has a right to sue him in her individual capacity. Her claim for her ante-nuptial settlement in the estate of her husband has priority over all unsecured debts, and she ranks in *pari passu* with secured creditors.

With regard to the question of divorce, the law appears to give greater guarantees to women than in Western countries. A wife has the power to claim divorce for habitual ill-treatment, desertion, or non-maintenance. If she is anxious to obtain divorce without any justifiable cause, she abandons her claim to her ante-nuptial settlement. If the divorce proceeds from the husband or from some line of conduct on his part, he has to pay down the entire sum settled on the wife before he can legally dissolve the marriage. In India these sums are so large as to be absolutely prohibitory. In cases of discord between the married parties, the *Hakim-i-Shara* (the judge) either appoints some respectable female, or goes himself, to effect a reconciliation. Among the sect of the Mutazalas, a divorce, whether proceeding from husband or wife, is invalid unless effected in the presence of the *Hakim-i-Shara*, with his sanction or approval.

"The mother is, of all persons," says a Mahomedan law-book, "the best entitled to the custody of her infant children during the connubial relationship, as well as after its dissolution." "This right belongs to her," Ameer Ali continues, "*qua* mother, and nothing can take it away from her except her own misconduct." When the tenderness of age, or the weakness of sex of the infant renders the mother's care necessary, the law supports the mother's natural right to the custody of her children, and allows it to take precedence of the paternal right for a certain specified time. When the children are no longer dependent on the mother's care, the father has a right to educate and take charge of them, and is entitled to the guardianship of their person in preference to the mother. Some schools of law maintain that the right of a mother to the custody of her daughter lasts till she is married; others, till she is *marriageable*; in Eastern countries there is practically no difference in these ages. A boy has the choice, till

he is seven, of living with either of his parents, in some cases the age is extended to nine. The Shiah only give the exclusive custody of children to the mother up to two years, and of a female child up to seven, but it is in the power of the courts of law to extend these terms. In default of the mother, this right of custody, called *hazanat*, devolves in the first place upon the female relations, and it is only when there are no female relations that the right descends to the male relatives. As before stated, a non-Moslem mother has the same right of *hazanat* as a Moslem, but apostacy and misconduct in the mother are considered prejudicial to the interests of the children, and deprive her of their custody. Her necessary qualifications for exercising the right of custody are: (1) that she be of sound mind; (2) that she should be of an age which would qualify her to bestow on the child the care which it may need; (3) that she should be well conducted; and (4) that she should live in a place where the infant may not undergo any risk, morally or physically. She forfeits it by subsequent marriage with a stranger\* (but not if she marries a relation), by misconduct, or by changing her domicile so as to prevent the father or tutor from exercising the necessary supervision over the child, but this would not be the case if her change of residence results from the necessity of earning her livelihood—being in service, &c. The custody of illegitimate children appertains, as in other countries, exclusively to the mother and her relations.

The mother, however, is not a natural guardian. She is entitled to the custody of the persons of her minor children, but she has no right to the guardianship of their property. If she deals with their estate without being specially authorised by the judge or the father, her acts will only be upheld if for the manifest advantage of the children. She can be validly appointed executrix of the father, and when so appointed, is entitled to exercise the powers which the law vests

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\* The Court of Algiers, however, has decided that if she marries a second time in order to secure for her infant child a better and more comfortable living, she does not forfeit her right of custody

in testamentary guardians, but she has no right to appoint a guardian for her minor children (p. 415). In this respect the Mahommedan law is no better than the English. She is at all times, however, entitled to institute a suit in her own name against the guardian for the protection of the interests of her children.

In ancient times the Arabs had the right to contract their children, both boys and girls, in marriage. In the modern Mussulman law, this right ceases when the children attain the age of fifteen. "Should a father persist in refusing his consent to the marriage of his adult daughter, she can herself enter into a contract of marriage validly, even against his will, and without his consent." A case may also occur in which a mother is quite willing that her daughter should marry an eligible suitor, but the father—simply from caprice, and without any good reason—withholds his consent; under such circumstances the civil court would be able to restrain him from any interference. Among some sects, if the father be dead and the mother is testamentary guardian, or acts as executrix, she takes precedence over all other relatives. Under the Maliki and Shafei law, the marriage of an adult girl is not valid unless her consent is obtained to it, but such consent must be given through a legally authorised *wali*, who would act as her representative. Under the *Hanafi* and *Shiah* law, the woman can consent to her own marriage, either with or without a *wali*. According to one law-book, "When a father consults his daughter before marriage, and says to her, 'I am going to contract you in marriage,' and does not mention the dower or the name of the husband, and she remains silent, silence is not consent in such a case, and she may afterwards repudiate the marriage\*."

The Koran created a thorough revolution in the condition of women. "The women," it says, "ought to behave towards their husbands in like manner as their

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\* Under the French law, a man may not marry till he has attained the age of 18, or a woman till 15. The consent of the parents is necessary till the son is 25, and the daughter 21, and great formalities are necessary if it is refused, even for five years longer.



husbands should behave towards them, according to what is just (p. 278). The husband is legally bound to maintain his wife and her domestic servants, and if she foregoes her right to maintenance, the stipulation is of no avail in law, and is void. The maintenance must be provided in accordance with the social position occupied, and the wife has the right to claim a habitation for her own exclusive use (p. 280). When the husband has left home without making any arrangement for his wife's support, the Kazi is authorised by law to make an order that her maintenance shall be paid out of any fund or property which the husband may have left in deposit or trust, or invested in any trade or business. A wife may contract debts for her support during her husband's absence, and if such debts are legitimate, contracted *bona fide* for her support, the creditors have a right of recovery against the husband. She may not sell any real property which he has left behind him, but she may raise a loan on it, provided the mortgage is really for her own and her children's support (p. 282). She only loses her right of maintenance if she leaves the conjugal roof against his will, or without sufficient reason (ill-treatment by himself or his relatives is a valid reason), if she is in prison, or goes on a pilgrimage without her husband's consent (though if the pilgrimage be *obligatory* she is, among the Shiahhs, still entitled to maintenance). A wife is, however, bound to live with her husband, and to follow him wherever he desires to go, unless express stipulations to the contrary have been entered into at the time of marriage, or she fears continual ill-treatment—in which case the Kazi can grant a separation.† Like the English law, the Sunni law allows the husband a moderate power of correction over a refractory wife.

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† Under the Roman law, a wife followed the domicile of her husband without the smallest right to question his choice, and this principle has been imported into the modern English law. The "Code Napoléon" also declares that the woman is obliged to live with her husband, and to follow him wherever he proposes to reside. The Mahomedan law gives the woman in many cases the right of questioning her husband's choice of abode.

The Shiah law absolutely prohibits a husband to touch his wife in anger.

As regards the maintenance of children, if the father is able to support them, it is incumbent on him to do so, and debts incurred on their behalf by any person, are recoverable from him.† In one legal school, if the father be poor, the liability rests on the grandfather if he have means, and not on the mother, even though she be rich; but among the Hanafis when the father is poor and the mother rich, the liability to maintain the infant children falls on her, with an eventual right of recovery against her husband. A woman may compound with her husband for the maintenance of her minor children, but if such composition prove injurious to their interests, it is not binding on the mother, and in the same way, if a woman on separating from her husband agree to take charge of the children of the union and support them without requiring any assistance, and if she finds subsequently she is unable to do so from poverty, the law will compel the husband to support his children in spite of the stipulation entered into at the time of separation (p. 293). If a son is able to maintain only one parent or grandparent, the mother or the grandmother has the preferential right.

No marriage is valid under Mahommedan law without dower,—“a consideration” money from the husband in favour of the wife for her sole use and benefit. The amount of dower varies in different countries, also depending, of course, on the social condition of the parties. Sometimes in India only half the dower is paid down; the remainder to be forfeited by the husband if he neglects to fulfil his contract. In case of his death no partition of the estate can take place till the dower debt is paid. “There is no community of goods under the Islamic system between husband and wife. She is absolute owner of her own property and whatever the husband settled on her as dower. The terms of the settlement are agreed to before marriage, but when these

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† See the Bill brought in by Mr. Hopwood, M.P., this session, as well as last year, to enable a married woman to make an order upon her husband for the maintenance of their children.

have been omitted, they may be settled subsequently. The terms of the contract may be varied at any time during the continuance of the marriage by mutual consent of the parties. The wife has the power to relinquish the whole dower debt, or make an abatement in her husband's favour; whilst the husband similarly has the power of making additions to her settlement or dower" (p. 320.)

We have not space to go into the other laws affecting the inheritance of widows, daughters, mothers, and other female relations, the grounds authorising divorces, &c., &c. These equitable provisions of the Mahommedan law with regard to the property and personal rights of women will be new and surprising to most of our readers; but the legal authority of Syed Ameer Ali's facts is beyond question. Western Europe has been many years in disabusing itself of the false idea so long entertained, that by the religion of Islam, women were even denied souls, and it was assuredly far from supposing that in many respects our lawgivers might take a useful lesson from the despised Mahommedans. If we contrast the legal condition of Moslem wives in many of these particulars with that of English wives, we shall not find the advantage on the side of that nation which has the highest mental culture or the greatest political freedom. Till a few years ago an English wife had no right to hold property of any kind, even her own earnings, and even yet that right is painfully limited. She has no claim to the custody of her children, no power over her own person, no equality in the matter of divorce. She does not inherit equally—in cases of intestacy where there are no children, she only inherits a third of her husband's estate, and he inherits the whole of hers. She has no direct claim upon her husband for maintenance, nor any power to force him to maintain their children. There is no opportunity for self-laudation among Christian lawyers while this condition of things lasts.

Not only does this book afford many useful lessons for ourselves, but to that large number of English men and women who are interested in Indian development, it will be encouraging to see that the already existing

laws give opportunity—with the increase of education and social freedom—for an almost indefinite improvement in the condition of women. That they do not grant women perfect equality with men need be matter for no surprise; but that they do affirm the right of wives to their own property, the care of their children, and in many cases to their personal freedom, is matter for glad acknowledgment, and affords the widest basis for future progress.

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#### ART. III.—THE DUTY OF BEING A POOR LAW GUARDIAN.

THE coming election of Poor Law Guardians ought very seriously to engage the attention of ladies during the next six weeks. In London, and indeed in all our large towns, every Board of Guardians ought to have one or two ladies upon it. It would be a social reform of immense value to all the lower strata of our commonwealth. Many persons look upon this reform as an innovation. If it were really an innovation, this need not prevent it from being an improvement, but practically, the appointment of ladies on these Boards would be a return to an old custom by which women were the natural care-takers of the poor, the sick, and the children. In answer to the frequent objection, "I don't like a woman to step into a man's sphere, and be appointed guardian," we might say, "It is really men who have stepped into a woman's sphere—that of dispenser, nurse, and teacher of the poor."

Every Poor Law Union employs women in subordinate capacities, and these matrons, nurses, and female superintendents of all degrees ought to have some ladies among their employers to whom to bring their suggestions or complaints. Dr. Beddoe, of Clifton, in an excellent letter on this subject truly says: "I have no hesitation in laying down this principle that

institutions whose inmates are in great proportion women and children, and part of whose subordinate officers are also women, ought to have the female sex represented on their governing bodies."

Women are the natural visitors of the poor. An enormous part of the guardian's duties lies in the distribution of out-door relief. The Eighth Report of the Local Government Board, 1878—79, showed that outdoor-relief was given that year weekly to 88,827 men, but to 252,824 women, and to 191,002 children under 16\*. This excessive proportion of women and children points unmistakeably to the advantage of having ladies on the Boards that grant relief, for they must know more of the actual wants of their own sex, and of the children, than gentlemen do, and at the same time (no inconsiderable qualification for a guardian) are less liable to be imposed upon by pretended claims; and thus economy would be united with greater efficiency of relief.

Again, the District Schools are a most important feature of our Poor Law System (because the Boarding out system which also was initiated by ladies, has not yet been adopted to any great extent). In these large schools the girls, though intended for domestic service, receive hardly any domestic training, and leave school nearly as incapable of domestic work as when they entered it. The schools are under the care of matrons, but the most intelligent matrons would find their work of superintendence aided by the sympathy and co-operation of one or two ladies on the Board to which she has to render account, while the stupid and careless matrons (and there are such) would be checked, controlled, and advised minutely and patiently.

In the workhouse itself the condition of the paupers would gain wonderfully. Here again the number of women exceeds that of the men. The aged poor who are there by no fault, unless perhaps improvidence—would be certainly more comfortable if two or three ladies in a position of authority could be applied to. The sick would have the advantage of an

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\* See the tables in the Handbook for Women, p. 17.

educated woman's thoughtfulness for their comforts, and some of the Board ladies might be able to give them help or advice even after they leave the work-house walls. We observed the other day a recommendation to vaccinate the babies in the work-house, when only a week old, because *the mothers went away so soon and were absolutely lost sight of afterwards*. The presence of one or two ladies on the Board might save many a forlorn new mother from thus drifting off into outer darkness and friendlessness.

It is not pleasant work to which we invite women. A guardian who does his duty does not lie on a bed of roses: it is unpaid, and there are no possible loaves and fishes to be obtained by it. It takes a good deal of time, though we do not think a lady need be deterred from undertaking it because she has also other occupations; it is better to have only a little of an intelligent woman's time and judgment than none at all. But it is emphatically the most womanly work that women of leisure and independence can undertake—the most motherly, the most Christian.

Unfortunately the choice of candidates is very limited. To become a candidate for the School Board no pecuniary qualification is necessary. Those Boards have, therefore, the advantage of being able to secure the services of married ladies, mothers who understand the special wants of children, and unmarried women living with their families who, being free from house-keeping cares, have plenty of leisure. They need only inquire into the mental and moral qualifications of their candidates. But to be a candidate for a Poor Law Guardian, a ratepaying or property qualification—to the amount in London of £40—is necessary. Thus, the majority of the women who work among the poor, and know their wants best, or who have most time to spare for these affairs, are disqualified. We wish that no such qualification were requisite. Till the law in this respect is changed, however, it is all the more necessary that the small proportion of women who are householders should come forward to supply that want.

There is no time to lose in preparation for the next election. A Committee has just been formed in London

of which Miss Eva Müller, 86, Portland Place, W., is the Honorary Secretary, to facilitate the election of ladies on the Poor Law Boards, and we invite the sympathy and co-operation of all our friends in this movement.

## REVIEWS.

*A Handbook for Women engaged in Social and Political Work*, by  
HELEN BLACKBURN. Arrowsmith, Quay Street, Bristol.

MISS BLACKBURN has done a real service to women in issuing this useful little book, which contains, first, a record of events concerning women during the past fourteen years, and subsequently Public Franchises, Public Educational Resources for Girls, Special Legislation for Women, and Organisations. The whole forms a very handy volume for reference. In the Public Franchises, the amount of qualification, the manner of voting, &c., are very carefully tabulated; in the Educational Resources, not only the names of the schools, but the pupils' exhibitions are mentioned. The Legislative part contains the list of the Married Women's Property Acts, the Factory Acts, &c., which are often difficult to obtain elsewhere.

As an instance of the careful and painstaking manner in which this book has been compiled, we may instance the following list of ladies who are members of English and Welsh School Boards at the close of 1880. The number, 71, far exceeds our anticipations, and will, we are sure, be new to our readers. The mark (\*) means elected a second, (†) a third, and (‡) a fourth time.

PLACE.	NAME.	DATE OF ELECTION.
Bristol ... ..	...Miss Emily Sturge	...Dec. 1879
Birmingham ... ..	...Miss Kendrick ...	... " " *
Bridgwater ... ..	...Miss Spiller ...	... " " *
Great Grimsby ... ..	...Mrs. Wintringham	...June 1880
Hastings ... ..	...Mrs. Tubbs ...	...Mar. " "
Huddersfield ... ..	...Mrs. Huth ...	...Feb. " †
Ipswich ... ..	...Miss Grimwade ...	...Jan. " ‡

Kidderminster	...	...	Mrs. Talbot	...	April 1880
Leeds	...	...	Mrs. Buckton	...	Dec. 1879†
Leicester	...	...	Mrs. Evans	...	Jan. 1880
Manchester	...	...	Miss Becker	...	Nov. 1879†
Metropolis.—Chelsea	...	...	Mrs. Webster	...	" "
" Finsbury	...	...	Mrs. Surr	...	" "
" Hackney	...	...	Mrs. Fenwick Miller	...	" "
" Lambeth	...	...	Miss Müller	...	" "
" Marylebone	...	...	Mrs. Westlake	...	" "
" Southwark	...	...	Miss Helen Taylor	...	" "
" "	...	...	Miss Richardson	...	" "
" Westminster	...	...	Miss Simcox	...	" "
Oxford...	...	...	Miss Ada Smith	...	Feb. 1880†
Rochester	...	...	Mrs. West	...	Jan. "
Swansea	...	...	Mrs. Higginson	...	" "
Tavistock	...	...	Miss M. G. Johnstone	...	April "
Worcester	...	...	Miss Westcombe	...	Jan. " *

PARISHES.

Beds.—Apsley Guise	...	...	Miss Emma Courtney	...	May 1879
Bucks.—Fulmer	...	...	Lady M. Willoughby	...	Sept. 1878
Cambs.—Stapleford	...	...	Duchess of Leeds	...	July 1879†
Cornwall.—Camborne	...	...	Miss Julia Butler	...	" "†
" Illogan	...	...	Miss Evans	...	June 1880
Denbigh.—Broughton	...	...	Miss Dorcas Hayes	...	April 1880
Devon.—Chulmleigh	...	...	Miss Julia Bethune	...	" "
" Musbury	...	...	Miss E. Robertson	...	Nov. 1878*
Dorset.—Swyre	...	...	Mrs. Symes	...	Dec. 1880
Essex.—Great Bardfield	...	...	Lucinda Newman	...	" 1878†
" "	...	...	Miss Rachel Smith	...	" "†
" Braintree	...	...	Mrs. Courtauld	...	Oct. "
" West Ham	...	...	Miss L. Steinmetz Boyd	...	Mar. 1880†
" "	...	...	Mrs. Curwen Banks	...	" "
" Langenhoe	...	...	Miss G. Parkinson	...	Nov. 1878
Glam.—Lower-Coy Church	...	...	Miss Mary Llewellyn	...	Sept. 1880
" Peunelline	...	...	Mrs. Homfray	...	" 1878†
Gloster.—Painswick	...	...	Mrs. Dickinson	...	Oct. 1878
Herts.—Bushey	...	...	Miss Catherine Sladen	...	Feb. 1879
Hereford.—Kingston	...	...	Miss Eleanor Temple	...	Mar. 1878
Kent.—Sevenoaks	...	...	Miss Anna Nouaille	...	Aug. 1880
(To fill vacancy caused by resignation of Mrs. Alliott.)					
" Mereworth	...	...	Viscountess Falmouth	...	Nov. 1878
" Mottingham	...	...	Mrs. Carver	...	Feb. 1879
Lincoln.—Great Steeping	...	...	Mrs. Annie Walls	...	Aug. "
Monmouth.—Methern	...	...	Mrs. Sarah Lewis	...	" 1878
M'tgomery.—Newtown, U.D.	...	...	Mrs. Howell	...	April 1880
Norfolk.—Barford	...	...	Mrs. Charlotte Turner	...	May 1878
" Southey	...	...	Miss Emily Brown	...	Oct. "
" Pomigland	...	...	Mrs. Birkbeck	...	June 1880
" Wymondham	...	...	Miss Florence Kimber	...	Oct. 1878
Notts.—Balderton	...	...	Mrs. J. T. Withers	...	Aug. 1880
Stafford.—Longton	...	...	Mrs. Clark	...	Jan. "



<i>Somerset</i> .—Street	...	...Mrs. S. S. Clark...	...Aug. 1880
"Chedzoy	...	...Mrs. Carey	...Aug. 1879
<i>Suffolk</i> .—Clayden	...	...Mrs. Agnew	...Oct. 1878*
"Gosbeck	...	...Mrs. Attwood	...May 1878
"Holleasley	...	...Mrs. Cobbold	...Nov. 1880
"	...	...Miss M. E. Johnson	... " " 1880
"	...	...Miss Johnson	... " " 1880
"Trinkev	...	...Miss Mary Daws...	...April "
<i>Surrey</i> .—Mitcham	...	...Mrs. Bidder	...Feb. "
<i>Sussex</i> .—Southwick	...	...Miss Rigden	...July "
<i>Yorks</i> .—Coombs	...	...Miss F. Durrant...	... " " "
"Rawcliffe	...	...Mrs. Creyke	...May 1879*
"Todmorden	...	...Mrs. Fialden	...Aug. 1880*
"Gainsborough	...	...Miss Josephine Pease	...Feb. 1879

We must conclude by recommending this handbook heartily, and we hope that the rapid sale may justify the author in giving us a second edition, in which to report the passing of the new Married Women's Property Act, should that become law this session.

*The Englishwoman's Year Book for 1881.* By L. M. H. HATCHARDS.

Readers of the *Review* have been acquainted for many years with this useful little book of reference, which was first published in 1875, and which comes out this year enlarged, and corrected up to the present date. Miss Hubbard has made it her business thoroughly to acquaint herself with the practical side of women's employments. To all women engaged in philanthropic work who may be anxious to know of institutions for teaching nursing, or employing poor women, the directory which is carefully revised, will be found especially serviceable. The census statistics are necessarily those of 1871, and will be subject to considerable modification if another edition should be published next year, but a glance at the number of employments in which women are already engaged in London is never without interest, and may offer many a suggestion to girls who are looking out for something to do. A few words of warning to women who are commencing charitable institutions, appear to us especially valuable, as the business faculties and business knowledge are so little cultivated in girls, that many women have to buy their experience most dearly. Many of the swindling companies in England and America base their expectations of success

on the extreme ignorance of business on the part of ladies, who having but little money to spare are anxious to make that little go as far as possible. A fraud was recently exposed in America; the company had offered a profit of 95 per cent. on investments. It would have been difficult to believe that any persons could be so ignorant of business as to expect this to be a *bona fide* investment, but nevertheless, many women were sufferers by it. Miss Cobbe once justly remarked, "The matter of money is the key of the situation." And a practical knowledge of *humdrum* business might enable many ladies to give useful advice to the ignorant and helpless of their sex.

*What Girls can do.* By PHILLIS BROWNE. Cassell.

This is an unpretending and useful little book calculated to give real hope to girls who have finished their school education, and want to carry on the life education which consists in steady, earnest work of any kind. "Many hundreds of girls at the present time," as the author remarks, "are being ruined simply for the want of something to do. This is by no means entirely their own fault. They have not been put to anything by their friends, and they have not sufficient energy and determination to make a beginning for themselves, and so their lives are wasted. They work hard enough when they are at school, but when they leave it they have no particular object in life. They dawdle through the mornings, dress themselves up and go out in the afternoons, and either visit or go to some place of amusement in the evenings, and so get through the months and years." The book gives useful suggestions to these girls: first as to different kinds of housework, in all of which conscientious thoroughness is as necessary as in learning a profession; next in the different sorts of charitable duties they can undertake, making clothing and soup for the poor, and looking after crèches, and Sunday-schools; in this kind of work the necessity for organisation is very sensibly dwelt on—the power of two or three girls combining together being almost indefinitely superior to that of one solitary worker. And lastly, the book treats of the various em-

ployments by which girls can earn their livelihood, such as teaching, nursing, literary and art work, pharmacy, &c. Here, of course, the steadiness and regularity recommended before becomes absolutely essential if they are to attain to any high standard. If it were more usual for girls to be brought up to think that they must work and make their own way, they would be much the better for it. As a general rule they wait in hope of something turning up until the pressure of necessity absolutely compels them to earn money immediately, and as Miss Nightingale once said, "Three-fourths of the mischief in women's lives arises from their excepting themselves from the rule of training considered needful for men." The author adds:

It remains for the girls of to-day to remove this reproach from women. Accuracy, punctuality, and perseverance can only be acquired in youth. It is almost hopeless for grown-up people, who have become accustomed to work for awhile, then stop when they feel tired, to force themselves to practise business habits. Yet there is no reason why girls, if brought up to feel that work is before them and must be done, that it is not a question whether they shall take it or leave it, but rather whether they shall do it well or ill, make it a success or a failure. I say, there is no reason why, girls impressed with this idea should not be as indefatigable and methodical as their brothers are.

*The Quarterly Review for January* has an interesting, though in some minor points not quite exact, article on the "Employment of Women in the Public Service." It cordially advocates this work, and after pointing out the smallness of the salaries now paid to women clerks, it suggests very sensibly, that these might be considerably raised, and still leave a large balance of economy to the public in the employment of ladies. The labour is mental, and sometimes very exhaustive, and deserves higher pay. Some useful statistics are given of the number of women employed in the Government service on the continent. The same difficulty of finding remunerative employment for educated women exists there as in England, and has led to the same avenues being opened to them.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

### "MARRIAGES OF ENGLISHWOMEN WITH FOREIGNERS."

MADAM,—The unsatisfactory state of the marriage laws of France and England, as affecting Englishwomen, was again brought before the House of Commons by Mr. Lewis Fry, on the 11th of January last. Sir W. Harcourt, in accordance with an intimation made to the House on the 24th of August last, with reference to the means of making the French marriage laws widely known, and thus, to some extent, guarding against the recurrence of the evils which had resulted from an ignorance on the part of Englishwomen of such marriage laws, replied, that a paper had been drawn up on the subject, and had been sent to the President of the Local Government Board, with the view of its being submitted to the Registrar-General.

As the disastrous effects arising from "Mixed Marriages" are not unfortunately confined to those cases in which Englishwomen, after having gone through the ceremony of marriage with Frenchmen, are in many cases awakened to the disagreeable fact that their marriages are null and void in France, in consequence of a non-compliance with the French code, but frequently result from the supposed legal marriages of Englishwomen with native subjects of other foreign countries, it is evident that the scope of any bill, brought forward for the purpose of preventing the recurrence of these invalid marriages, should be extended, if possible, so as to prohibit the marriages of Englishwomen with all foreigners, unless the requirements of the law of the intended husband's domicile have previously been complied with, as far as it may be possible to do so.

For it cannot be too widely made known, that, although *Sardinians* are allowed to marry abroad, the marriage must be celebrated according to the rites of the Roman Church, and consequently a marriage in England before a civil officer would have no legal binding

effect. The omission of certain notices and other formalities, similar to those required by the 170th Article of the French Code, invalidates the marriages of *Austrians* abroad. The marriages of *Bavarian* (though this law does not extend to *Rhenish Bavaria*) and *Wurtemberg* subjects abroad, without the permission of the Administrative authorities or the Crown, are void. In *Nassau* the marriages abroad of Jews only, without the consent of the Government, are held invalid. The marriages abroad of subjects of *Saxony* are nullified in those cases only, in which the law would nullify marriages in Saxony. By the laws of *Prussia*, *Denmark*, *Norway*, *Schleswig*, and *Holstein*, marriages contracted abroad are valid, unless contracted in order to defeat the laws of those countries. And by the law of *Spain* the marriage of a Spaniard who has not attained his 25th year, is prohibited, unless the consent of the father, mother, or guardian, is obtained. It may also be mentioned, for the protection of Englishwomen, that, although subjects of *Sweden* are permitted to marry abroad, the marriage settlements must be registered in Sweden, within a given time, under pain of the Settlements being treated as null and void.

The enumeration in this brief summary, of a few of the pitfalls most likely to beset those of our countrywomen who are now contemplating a marriage with a foreigner, may possibly induce them to take all the necessary steps in order to prevent the marriage from being hereafter set aside as null and void; and I feel confident, that, if something analogous to the suggestion contained in my letter in your *Review* of the 15th of October, 1879, was legalized, it would in future save many a heart from being broken, and many a home from being desolated, owing to an unfortunate want of knowledge on the part of British subjects of the marriage laws of other countries.

I am, Madam, yours faithfully,

MERYON WHITE.

*Oxford and Cambridge Club, Feb. 3rd.*

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MEDICAL WOMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

MADAM,—The list of medical women given in the REVIEW for January is, I believe, calculated to do great injustice to certain other qualified women not included therein. The lay public cannot be expected to know that there is a difference between being qualified and being registered, the latter distinction being merely a weapon of exclusion used with success for many years by men-doctors to keep women-doctors from the advantages of the profession, and which, it is sad to say, is used with like effect against women only by some of the authorities of the London School of Medicine at the present day. Technically, the list is quite correct, but if only intended as a list of registered medical women, why have dates and why have addresses been given? The former are calculated to mislead, and the latter must have the effect of facilitating practice for registered women only. For example, there are two ladies (perhaps more) not included in that list, who, for reasons best known to themselves, have not thought fit to become registered, although the medical degrees under which they practise are recognized through the whole world as being vastly superior to the licence of the liberal and brave-hearted little Irish college which permitted most of the women in the list to register. The ladies I refer to, are—

Mrs. Bovell Sturge, M.D. (Paris), 9, Wimpole Street, W., one of the Visiting Physicians of the New Hospital for Women, Marylebone Road, W., and  
Mrs. Algernon Kingsford, M.D. (Paris), 11A, Chapel Street, Park Lane, W.

I am, &c.,

CLERIOUS.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

## EDUCATION.

## CAMBRIDGE.

The Syndicate appointed to consider the memorials relating to the encouragement to be given to the higher education of women have reported to the Senate as follows: "The Syndicate share the desire of the memorialists that the advantages of academic training may be secured to women, and that the results of such training may be authoritatively tested and certified. For various reasons, however, they are not prepared to recommend that women should be admitted either to the degrees of the University generally or to the B.A. degree alone. They believe that the two objects above-mentioned may be in a large measure attained, and great encouragement be given to the higher education of women by the formal admission of female students to the Honour Examinations of the University together with an authoritative record of the results of their examination in published class lists. The advantages of allowing women to enter the general and special examinations for the ordinary B.A. degree are less obvious, and the Syndicate abstain from making any recommendation on this head. They think that women admitted to the Honour Examinations should be required to have fulfilled the same conditions of residence as are imposed on Members of the University, and that they should either have given the same evidence of preliminary training by passing the previous examination or one of the various substitutes already accepted for it, or else should have obtained an honour certificate in the higher local examination, with the condition of passing in certain specified groups. They propose that each successful candidate should be granted a certificate setting forth the conditions under which she has been admitted to the Tripos Examination, and the standard to which she has attained. Should the recommendations of this report be approved by the Senate, the Syndicate propose to deal in a subsequent report with various points of detail, such as the amount of the fees to be paid, the places and con-

duct of the examinations, and exceptional regulations with regard to standing." The Syndicate proceeded to recommend—"That such residence shall be kept at Girton College, at Newnham College, or other similar institution hereafter recognised by the University by grace of the Senate," and "That the above regulations come into operation on the Easter Term, 1881." The Vice-Chancellor invited the attendance of Members of the Senate in the Art School on Friday, February 11th, at 2 p.m., for the discussion of the above report.

#### GIRTON COLLEGE.

At the recent examinations for the Mathematical Tripos in Cambridge, the Senior Moderator reported that Miss Pailthorpe of Girton, received a certificate next in order to the Twenty-third Wrangler, Miss H. M. Sheldon would have been a senior optime if she had been classed, and Miss S. Marks and Miss K. Gale would have been junior optimes. Miss Pailthorpe held one of the scholarships given by Mr. R. S. Wright, and Miss Gale one of the exhibitions of the Clothworker's Company.

MARY ELIZABETH PAILTHORPE, daughter of Samuel Pailthorpe, formerly of Hastings, who obtained in the late examination for the Mathematical Tripos, marks entitling her to a position between the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wranglers, entered the Camden School in March, 1872, and obtained a nomination to the North London Collegiate School in the following year. During her school career, she passed with honours the Junior and Senior Local Examinations of the University of Cambridge, in 1873 and 1875 respectively, and obtained the third place in the Honours' Division at the Women's General Examination of the University of London in 1877, gaining at the same time a certificate for special proficiency in Mathematics. In the same year she competed successfully at the Girton Entrance Examination for an open scholarship of £100 per annum, tenable at Girton for three years, and on leaving school received the Clothworkers' Leaving Scholarship of £23. Her tutor for the last six months has been W. L. Mollison, M.A., of Clare Col-



lege. Miss Pailthorpe is the second Girton student who has gained first class honours in the Mathematical Tripos.

The *Athenæum* says: "Talking of the education of women, it may be noted as a curious fact that more applications for the admission of their daughters into Girton College are made by the clergy than by any other class in the community. This is remarkable on two grounds. Firstly, the clergy are generally credited with being conservative in their habits of thought, and one would hardly expect them to be attracted by so revolutionary a movement as that for the University education of women. Secondly, they are not usually rich, and poor men generally regard their daughters' education as "finished" at eighteen, and do not care to spend more upon it."

We confess ourselves not to think it at all remarkable. In the first place Girton was originally founded specially with a view to the daughters of the clergy; and secondly, a good Cambridge certificate is equivalent to an increase of from £50 to £100 in the salary which a future teacher can obtain. No Girton or Newnham student need want a situation, for the demand far exceeds as yet the supply, and she is sure of employment and good salary. It is not likely that clergymen's daughters, who in so large a proportion are compelled to earn their living, should remain insensible to these advantages.

#### NEWNHAM COLLEGE.

In the recent examination for the Mathematical Tripos, Miss Clemes attained the standard of a Senior optime.

The Annual Report of Newnham College which records the opening of the second house or North Hall last October, says that Mrs. Henry Sidgwick has undertaken for the present the care of the North Hall, with the office of Vice-Principal of Newnham College. It continues—

Between October 1871 and June 1880, about 215 students came into residence in Cambridge for the purpose of attending the lectures, of whom 184 have passed examinations. During the academical year 1879-80, there were 34 students in residence in Newnham Hall,

and about 50 others residing in Cambridge, under the care of the Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women. Of these 6 were examined informally by the University examiners, in the papers of some of the Tripos Examinations. Miss Martin and Miss Rhodes were examined in the papers of the Moral Sciences Tripos, and Miss Martin attained the standard of a first, Miss Rhodes that of a second class; Miss Gardner and Miss Marshall were examined in those of the Historical Tripos, and both attained the standard of a first class. Miss Forster was examined in the papers of the Natural Sciences Tripos, and attained the standard of a second class, and Miss Merrifield was examined in those of the Classical Tripos, and attained the standard of a second class.

Of former students, Miss Creak has during this year passed the final examination for the B.A. degree of the University of London in the first division; Miss Key and Miss Chambers have been appointed Head mistresses of the new High Schools for girls at Truro and York; Miss Martin and Miss Merrifield have been appointed resident lecturers of Newnham College.

#### LONDON UNIVERSITY.

Among the candidates who passed the January examination for matriculation in the honours' division, are following ladies:—

Edith Mary Pope—Milton Mount College.

Louisa Macdonald—Private tuition.

Eliza Gelsthorp Snell—Milton Mount College.

Mary Agnes Hannay—Milton Mount College.

THE admission of women to the classes at University College is proving a striking success. There are now about 170 exclusive of the "Slade girls" who attend regularly the classes of the various professors, and a lady, Miss A Heather-Bigg, has just carried off the Joseph Hume Scholarship, defeating all the male competitors. Miss Heather-Bigg is a LL.A. of St. Andrew's University.

#### DURHAM UNIVERSITY.

At the last meeting of the Senate of the University of Durham, an application was presented for permission for a lady to compete for an entrance scholarship in October next, and if successful to proceed at the proper time to the degree of B.A. We understand that neither the Warden nor the Senate are unfavourable to the admission of women, though there are difficulties.

ARCHÆOLOGY.—Miss J. E. Harrison is lecturing to

ladies at the British Museum on the elements of Archaeology. The first lecture was on Friday, the 11th.

**BEDFORD COLLEGE.**—The Lent term at Bedford College began on the 28th of January. Special advantages have been offered to students preparing for the London University Examinations, and classes have been formed to suit their requirements in classics, mathematics, English literature, modern languages and physical science. Physical and chemical laboratories have also been opened where students are trained in practical work under the superintendence of professors. We may remember that a Bedford College student headed the 284 successful candidates in the London Matriculation Examination of 1880.

**RHYL.**—A high school for girls, called the North Wales Church of England High School, was opened last week at Rhyl, by the Ven. Archdeacon Smart. The School has been founded on a broad basis.

### SUFFRAGE.

Mr. Hugh Mason, M.P., gave notice on January 22nd, in the House of Commons, "On an early day to move a resolution in favour of the extension of the Parliamentary Franchise to women who possess the qualifications which enable men to vote, and who in all matters of local government have the right of voting."

### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY BILL (SCOTLAND).

The second reading of this Bill, as well as of the English Bill, under the care of Mr. Hinde Palmer, had been fixed for January 12th but Mr. Forster appealed to Mr. Anderson and to Mr. Hinde Palmer, to postpone the discussion on the second reading of these Bills in order to allow the debate on the Address to the Throne to be immediately resumed.

Mr. ANDERSON and Mr. H. PALMER, while expressing disappointment at the loss of their opportunity, said they felt bound to accede to the request of the Government, expressed through Mr. Forster.

On January 13th, Mr. ANDERSON moved the second reading of this Bill, which he said was identically the

same as that of last session, on the understanding that it was to go before a Select Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, on this understanding, consented. Sir R. A. CROSS would offer no opposition to to that course. Mr. E. D. GRAY deprecated second readings of Bills being taken without discussion. After remarks from Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Webster, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Peddie, Mr. HEALY moved the adjournment of the debate, amid loud expressions of disapproval. He objected that no description had been given of the Bill. Mr. ANDERSON pointed out that the hon. member could have made himself acquainted with the Bill if he had chosen, for it had been printed and was in the hands of members. After some further discussion, the motion for adjournment was withdrawn and the Bill was read a second time.

Mr. ANDERSON then moved that it be referred to a Select Committee. Mr. BIGGAR and Mr. CALLAN objected to this course, and the latter hon. gentleman moved the adjournment of the debate. Mr. PARNELL suggested that, as an opportunity would be given at a later stage to put a notice of objection to the formation of the Select Committee, it would be for the convenience of the House that the motion should be withdrawn. Mr. CALLAN assented, remarking that it was out of courtesy to Mr. Parnell, and not to Mr. Anderson that he did so.

The Bill was then referred to a Select Committee.

The Married Women's Property Bill (England) was also read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

The Committee was nominated on Wednesday, Feb. 9th, and consists of the following gentlemen: Mr. Billingham, M.P. for Louth; Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P. for Manchester; Mr. Horace Davey, M.P. for Christchurch; Mr. Attorney General (Sir Henry James), M.P. for Taunton; Mr. Grantham, M.P. for East Surrey; Mr. Gibson (Ex-Attorney General for Ireland), M.P. for Dublin University; Mr. Hastings, M.P. for East Worcestershire; Sir Henry Holland, M.P. for Midhurst; Sir Henry Jackson, M.P. for Coventry, the Judge Advocate General (The Right Hon. G. Osborne Morgan), M.P. for Denbighshire; Mr. Hinde Palmer, M.P. for Lincoln;

Mr. Pemberton, M.P. for East Kent; Mr. Round, M.P. for East Essex; and Mr. Schriber, M.P. for Poole. As the Bill will now be proceeded with at once, the Married Women's Property Committee earnestly beg the *immediate* help of all their friends in preparing Petitions for presentation to the House of Commons.

A PAPER on the Married Women's Property Acts was read by Mr. Chas. McLaren, M.P., on Saturday, January 22nd, before the Law Amendment Society, at 1, Adam Street, Adelphi. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Hinde Palmer, Q.C., M.P., and among the audience were several other Members of Parliament. Mr. McLaren began by observing: "It is impossible to believe that either man or woman unfettered by custom or by social or legal restrictions, will voluntarily accept the legal disabilities which marriage imposes upon a woman; and even where a sentiment of affection towards the other partner might induce a woman to surrender her legal liberty and her civil status upon marriage, the law ought to protect her from the consequences of her own infatuation. It is equally impossible to hold that these disabilities can promote the happiness of either partner. Any apparent advantage accruing to the husband is in reality a loss to both husband and wife; and if the real facts of the case could be laid before both intending partners, I think they would concur in declaring that the artificial relations, which the English law creates between them in respect of their separate property, are inconsistent with and destructive of the objects with which they enter upon the state of marriage." He said the law ought to be fundamentally changed to accord with the relations of modern society, and that all amendments ought to proceed upon the principle that the labour of each of the partners in matrimony should be for the use of both, and that neither party should be responsible for the acts of the other. The Bill of 1881 proceeded upon this principle, and at the outset it enacted that the act of marriage should leave the property both of husband and wife unaffected. It secured in the case of a happy marriage the enjoyment of this property to both, while in the case of domestic differences it gave to each the dominion over his or her separate estate. The Bill really

secured to all women the advantages now possessed only by the rich who could afford the luxury of a settlement, and thus repealed what really amounted to an oppressive and prohibitive tax upon justice to the poor. Out of every thirteen wives not more than two could pay for or really understand the need of a marriage settlement; but this Bill would afford protection to all. The Bill might be made a complete code of the law of conjugal property; but this would be too bold an effort; some of its details, however, were valuable instalments of reform.

Sir Arthur Hobhouse, M.P., Mr. G. Palmer, M.P., Mr. Horace Davey, Q.C., M.P., Sir D. Wedderburn, M.P., and some others also spoke in favour of the principle of the Bill.

#### POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

A meeting was recently held at No. 86, Portland Place, to promote the return of ladies as Poor Law Guardians at the ensuing elections in April; Mr. J. A. Lyon, Poor Law Guardian of the district of Camberwell, was in the chair. Letters of apology were read from Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Elice Hopkins, Miss Burbury, Miss C. Williams, and Miss Lidgett. Miss S. Ward-Andrews, Poor Law Guardian of St. Pancras, said she spoke from experience of the urgent necessity of female co-operation on Poor Law Boards. She moved the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that ratepayers should be represented by a fair proportion of ladies as Poor Law Guardians, seeing that so much of the work in connection with the carrying out of the Acts can be more efficiently performed by women, and that immediate steps should be taken to give effect to this resolution." Miss Biggs seconded the resolution. She thought the Committee should collect information as to the proper qualifications of candidates. The resolution was carried. Mrs. Chant, in moving another resolution, said the best candidates would be those who had already had experience of work among the poor. She referred to a case in which a large union had suffered from a disease which could never have arisen, had there been proper supervision by ladies. The Rev.

T. Dousey, Poor Law Guardian of Camberwell, brought forward statistics to show that out of 3,000 inmates of the Camberwell Union, 2,200 were women and children, whose interests would undoubtedly be better attended to by women than by men. Miss Müller, Miss Babb, Rev. Brooke Lambert, and Mr. George Hill also addressed the meeting.

A Preliminary Committee was appointed to communicate with any ladies who might be willing to come forward. Miss Eva Müller has kindly consented to act as Secretary. Any ladies willing themselves to take part in this useful work, or able to help, should at once communicate with her, as the time is short.

It may be of use here to remind our readers that a candidate for a Poor Law Guardian must have a qualification either as (1) Ratepayers who have been rated to the relief of the poor the whole of the year preceding, and whose names are entered on the rate books as having paid up all dues up to the six months preceding the election; or (2) Owners of property in the parish who shall before the 1st of February give a statement in writing to the overseers, of their name, address, and description of property, which shall be entered in a book kept for the purpose. Thus the choice of candidates is very limited.

#### BILL FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN.

Mr. Hopwood asked leave, on January 12th, to bring in a Bill for the Maintenance of Children. This is a Bill to provide a remedy by law for married women against their husbands refusing or neglecting to support their children, and to enable a court of summary jurisdiction, upon the application of any married woman within its jurisdiction, to make an order upon her husband for the payment to her, or some other person named in the order, a sum of money proportionate to his means, in weekly or other instalments, for the maintenance of any children of such husband and wife under the age of sixteen. No such order would be made unless the court was satisfied that the father was able to comply, and had neglected to support his children.

This Bill would supply a deficiency that is greatly felt. At present a married woman must come with her children to the parish, and the Guardians can, if they see fit to give her relief, proceed against the husband and father, but she has no direct remedy. This useful Bill had been several days on the notice paper of the House of Commons. When Mr. Hopwood moved for leave to bring it in, Mr. Warton, M.P. for Bridport, adopted the almost unprecedented course of objecting to leave being given. It will be remembered that Mr. Warton obtained last session the unenviable distinction of opposing the Bill to protect children against cruel assaults. The following night, however, Mr. Hopwood was successful, and obtained leave to bring in his Bill. Capt. Aylmer, M.P. for Maidstone, has followed Mr. Warton's example, and has put his name down in opposition. This will prevent its coming on for discussion after half past twelve, and in a busy session like the present is nearly equivalent to destroying its chances. It is strange how much perseverance and courage are necessary to achieve even such a self-evident reform.

#### ARTS EXAMINATION AT THE APOTHECARIES' HALL.

The following ladies have passed the Arts Examination of the Apothecaries' Hall, held January 21st and 22nd, 1881:—First division:—Miss Caroline Keith, bracketed second; Miss Josephine Stuart Macdonough, fourth. Second division:—Miss Elizabeth S. Collier; Miss Jessie Crosfield; Miss Elise Morgan; Miss Eliza Jane Stacey; Miss Lydia Maria Webb.

#### LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP.—A competitive examination will be held at the London School of Medicine for Women at 10 a.m., September 27th and 28th, 1881, when an entrance scholarship value £30, offered to women desirous of pursuing the study of medicine by the Executive Council of the School, will be awarded to the candidate who obtains the highest number of marks in the examination, supposing she fully satisfies the examiners. All candidates must have passed a preliminary examination in arts recognised by the General Medical Council.



Subjects of examination—(a) English—comprising Dictation, Grammar, Analysis and Composition, with Definition and Derivations of Words; (b) Latin—Cicero, First Catiline Oration, Grammar, Translations of easy passages into Latin and English; (c) Arithmetic—including Decimals; (d) Elements of Mathematics—Euclid, Book 1 and 11; Algebra, simple equations; (e) Elementary Physics—Balfour Stewart's lessons in Elementary Physics to end of chapter 5.

The successful candidate will be required to enter on a full course of medical study at the London School of Medicins for Women. Should no candidate fully satisfy the examiners, the scholarship will not be awarded. Intending candidates should apply at least ten days before the date of examination, to Mrs. Thorne, Hon. Sec., 30, Henrietta Street, Brunswick Square, London, W.C.

Everything from Carlyle's pen has such deep interest now for the public, that we make no apology for reprinting from the *Standard* a letter once written by him on the medical education of women:—

A Correspondent sends us the followitg letter, written by Mr Carlyle to a Medical Student who had been a prominent supporter of his candidature for the Lord Rectorship of Edinburgh University, and who had written to him requesting an expression of his opinion in regard to the entrance of women into the medical profession. Our Correspondent thinks there can be no reason now for withholding the letter from publication:—

"5, Cheyne row, Chelsea, Feb. 9, 1871.

"Dear Sir,—It is with reluctance that I write anything to you on this subject of Female Emancipation which is now rising to such a height, and I do it only on the strict condition that whatever I say shall be private and nothing of it get into newspapers. The truth is, the topic, for five-and-twenty years past, especially for the last three or four, has been a mere sorrow to me, one of the most afflictting proofs of the miserable anarchy that prevails in human society, and I have avoided thinking of it, except when fairly compelled. What little has become clear to me on it, I shall now endeavour to tell you.

"In the first place, then, I have never doubted but the true and noble function of a woman in this world was, is, and for ever will be, that of being a Wife and Helpmate to a worthy man, and discharging well the duties that devolve on her in consequence as mother of children and Mistress of a Household—duties, high, noble, silently important as any that can fall to a human creature; duties which, if well discharged, constitute woman, in a soft, beau-

tiful, and almost sacred way, the Queen of the World, and which, by her natural faculties, graces, strengths, and weaknesses are every way indicated as specially hers. The true destiny of a woman, therefore, is to wed a man she can love and esteem, and to lead noiselessly under his protection, with all the wisdom, grace, and heroism that is in her, the life prescribed in consequence.

"It seems, furthermore, indubitable that if a woman miss this destiny, or have renounced it, she has every right, before God and man, to take up whatever honest employment she can find open to her in the world. Probably there are several or many employments now exclusively in the hands of men, for which women might be more or less fit—printing, tailoring, weaving, clerking, &c. That Medicine is intrinsically not unfit for them is proved from the fact that in much more sound and earnest ages than ours, before the medical profession rose into being, they were virtually the physicians and surgeons as well as sick nurses—all that the world had. Their form of intellect, their sympathy, their wonderful acuteness of observation, &c., seem to indicate in them peculiar qualities for dealing with disease; and evidently in certain departments (that of female disease) they have quite peculiar opportunities of being useful. My answer to your question, then, may be that two things are not doubtful to me in this matter.

"1. That Women—any woman who deliberately so determines—have a right to study Medicine; and that it might be profitable and serviceable to have facilities, or at least possibilities, offered them for so doing. But—

"2. That, for obvious reasons, Female Students of Medicine ought to have, if possible, Female Teachers, or else an extremely select kind of men, and, in particular, that to have young women present among young men in anatomical classes, clinical lectures, or generally studying Medicine in concert, is an incongruity of the first magnitude, and shocking to think of to every pure and modest mind.

"This is all I have to say; and I send it to you under the condition above mentioned, as a friend for the use of friends.

"Yours sincerely,

"T. CARLYLE.

#### WOMEN IN THE POST-OFFICE.

Mr. Fawcett, on February 7th, replying to questions by Mr. Biggar with respect to Post-office business, said that postmasters were allowed to appoint their wives, daughters or sisters to be assistants, and no post-offices in Ireland were in a higher state of efficiency than where there were such appointments.

THE SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT.—Now that the Post-office Savings Bank building in Queen Victoria Street is about being put in thorough working order, with respect to all the departments which deal with the rapidly-increasing business of Post-office Savings

Banks, numerous appointments of female clerks are expected to be made; and not alone in the Central Office, but to those of various important provincial towns. Appointments can be secured only by competitive examination conducted by the Civil Service Commissioners; and the subjects for examination are—first, handwriting and orthography; secondly, English grammar and composition; thirdly, arithmetic, including vulgar and decimal fractions; fourthly, geography. Candidates under 17 and over 20 years of age are ineligible. The commencing and maximum salaries are classified thus:—Second-class clerks, £40 per annum, rising annually by £7 10s. to £75; first-class clerks, £80 a year, rising by £7 10s. yearly to £100; principal clerks, £110 a year, rising by £10 annually to £150. The number of candidates is expected to be out of all proportion to the number of situations to be filled.

THE TELEGRAPH CLERKS' AGITATION.—A large and enthusiastic meeting of the female clerks of the Central Telegraph Office, London, was held on February 9th, at Aldersgate-street School-rooms, when a petition to the Postmaster-General was drafted submitting that they are entitled to be placed in at least as good a position as that of the female clerks in the Post Office Savings' Bank and the telegraph message branches. It is estimated that more than five hundred signatures will be appended to this petition. This is another phase of the telegraph clerks' agitation now being carried on throughout the United Kingdom.

AT the annual entertainment of the Post-office Orphans' Home, prizes were given to the girls for essays on "Women's Work," and to the boys on "The Uses of Discipline and Advantages of Obedience." The Chairman (Mr. Johnston) remarked that the boys had not shown such ability as the girls, who were awarded thirty-one prizes, while the boys would only receive eleven.—*City Press*.

#### OBITUARY.

##### DEATH OF MRS. S. C. HALL.

General regret will be felt at the announcement that on January 30th, Mrs. S. C. Hall died at Devon Lodge,

East Molesey, after a short illness, at the age of 81. For more than half a century the name of Mrs. Hall has been inseparably associated in literary work with that of her husband, Mr. Samuel Carter Hall. Mrs. Hall (Anna Maria Fielding), was an Irish lady, both by birth and parentage. In 1829 Mrs. Hall launched her first work, "Sketches of Irish Character," and gave to the world in rapid succession her "Chronicles of a School-room," "The Buccaneers"—a novel of the time of the Protectorate, which she issued in 1832—"Tales of Woman's Trials," "The Outlaw," "Uncle Horace," "Marion; or a Young Maid's Fortunes"—which has been published in several foreign tongues—and her two greatest and most successful works, "Lights and Shadows of Irish Life," and "Stories of the Irish Peasantry." Whilst jointly conducting the *Art Journal*, Mr. and Mrs. Hall published their standard work, "Ireland: its Scenery, Character, &c.;" and this was followed, in 1845, by "The Whiteboy," and later "Can Wrong be Right?" and "A Woman's Story," all from the pen of Mrs. Hall; while in 1859 they jointly issued another famous publication, "The Book of the Thames," which has passed through several editions. Other of their works about this time, jointly or separately, were "Pilgrimages to English Shrines," which contained "pleasant illustrated sketches of the homes and haunts of genius and virtue in our own little island;" the "Book of South Wales," "A Week at Killarney," and a gracefully-conceived and exquisitely-written Irish fairy tale, "Midsummer Eve." Mrs. Hall established, and for a time, at its commencement, edited the *St. James's Magazine*, and contributed largely to other periodical literature. Among her latest published works were the "Fight for Faith," and "The Prince of the Fairy Family." Mrs. Hall also wrote several stories and sketches to recommend temperance. Mr. and Mrs. Hall attained their golden wedding—their half-century of married life—in 1874, and the event was duly celebrated.

#### THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

The Royal Academy has again neglected to pay a tribute, deserved and expected, to lady artists. It has

twice met lately to elect new members, and each time has elected men. Twelve months ago it was understood that the authorities at Burlington House had acknowledged the claim of women, merely as artists, to become R.A., or simply A. We have been told that in these last elections the names of women were submitted and voted on, but rejected. No fault can be found with the last selection of gentlemen, who maintain an honourable and well-earned reputation; but the names of Mrs. Thompson-Butler, Mrs. E. M. Ward, the Misses Montalba, and many others, will recur to mind, as ladies who would, if elected, confer as much honour on the Academy as they received from it.

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY has been made by Miss James, of 17, Tablay Road, Parkhurst Road, N. She has found out how to preserve seaweeds without destroying their freshness, coolness, and natural colours. Miss James has collected great quantities and varieties of seaweed. Some have been made up into trimmings for ball dresses instead of artificial flowers. They are for sale. The effect is very good. If any lady wishes to see any specimens, Miss James will send a person with them. They can also be seen at her own house.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A LONDON correspondent of a Manchester paper states that Lady Florence Dixie is going out to the Cape as war correspondent of the *Post*. She has already seen a great deal of the world, but she has never seen war, and she goes out to tell the story of battle from a woman's point of view.

MISS E. YULE, daughter of Colonel Yule, is, the *Athenæum* says, engaged in investigations regarding the physical geography of some parts of Greece and Turkey.

MISS COLENZO and Colonel Durnford are about to publish a popular edition of their "History of the Zulu War."

METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION FOR YOUNG SERVANTS.—Mrs. Burdett calls attention to the claims of this Association, which is not known as it deserves to be. It supplies registry offices and a home for young girls

when ill or out of situation. The Secretary, 14, Grosvenor Road, S.W., will be glad to answer all inquiries.

LADY BRABAZON has given a cheque for £300 to provide a daily meal for the most destitute children attending the Board Schools of London.

CONVALESCENT HOME.—Miss Frances Hastings, Superintendent of the Whitecross Medical Mission, requests the newspapers to make it known that a Convalescent Home has been taken at Leytonstone in connection with the Mission. Furniture and funds are much needed; they can be sent to Albert Villa, South-west Road, Fillibrooke Estate, Leytonstone, Essex.

AN AMBULANCE CLASS is now being held at the Brompton Evening College, 1, Queen Street, under the direction of the St. John's Ambulance Society.

SOMERVILLE CLUB.—The rooms at 21, Mortimer Street, W., will shortly be opened for the members of the Club, who number—we understand—fourteen hundred already.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

"Miss Williamson's Divagations," by Miss Thackeray.—*Smith, Elder.*

"Noté Book of an Elderly Lady," by Elizabeth Sewell.—*Walter Smith*

"The Lutanist of St. Taerbis," by Catherine Drew.—*Marcus Ward.*

"My Imperialist Neighbour," by Henrietta Duff.—*Marcus Ward.*

"Four-in-hand," by Jean Middlemas.—*Tinsley.*

"The Brides of Ardmore," by Agnes Smith.—*Elliot Stock.*

"Lares and Penates," by Mrs. Caddy.—*Chatto & Windus.*

"Chaucer for Schools," by Mrs. Haweis.—*Chatto & Windus.*

"In the Ardennes," by Mrs. Maywood.—*Chatto & Windus.*

"Leaves from a Hunting Journal," by Mrs. G. Bayer.—*Chatto & Windus.*

"Ethelstone—Eveline and Poems," by Mrs. Horace Dobell.—*Keegan Paul.*

"A Year's Meditations," by Mrs. Craven.—*Keegan Paul.*

"Her Deserts," by Mrs. A. Fraser.—*Hurst & Blackett.*

"The Life of a Rock Scorpion," by Flora Calpensis.—*Charing Cross Publishing Company.*

"Idonea," by Anne Beale.—*Hurst & Blackett.*

"Beryl Fortescue," by Lady D. Hardy.—*Hurst & Blackett.*

"Queenie's Whim," by Rosa N. Carey.—*Bentley.*

"Asphodel," by Miss Braddon.—*Maxwell.*

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

## FRANCE.

THE following ladies are members of the Committee of Consultation of Primary Public Education: Madame Amélie Dosquet, officer of academy, Madame de Frieberg, officer of public instruction, and directress of the Normal School for teachers of the Seine, and Madame Marie Loizillon, Reporting Inspectress of Foundling Hospitals.

MEDALS of Honour or honourable mention have been decreed by the Minister of the Interior to the following women for deeds of devotion or courage.

1. Mlle. Marie-Francoise Keranflech, a servant at Lannion, grievously wounded in coming to the assistance of a woman whose husband under temporary insanity, was striking her with a knife.

2. Mme. Marguerite Pierron of Roche-sur-Marne, for care given to a woman ill of small-pox.

3. Mme. Isabelle Klein, a photographer at Saintes, for stopping a runaway horse.

4. Mme. Emilie Dumay (Sister Benjamin), Superior of the Communal School at Etang, for care given to small-pox patients.

5. Mme. Jeanne Garaud, for rescuing a child fallen into the River Creuse.

6. Mme. Guilbert of Luxeuil, for helping people fallen into the Orbiquet.

7. Mme. Fons of Esperaga, for saving a child who was being drowned in the Aude.

Mme. Paule Mink, the socialist lecturer and companion of Louise Michel, is, it is said, of Polish origin, her father being a Polish emigrant. She came to Paris in 1862, and began to occupy herself with political questions. Among her instructors and advisers was Mr. Edmond Adam, whose widow now holds a famous *salon*. Mme. Mink is the sister of a well known engineer, who invented the compressed air traction engines in use on some of the Parisian tramway lines.

PREVOST PARADOL's daughter, who became a nun some years ago, has gone to Egypt to found a convent of the order of Notre Dame de Sion, a mission which especially devotes itself to the conversion of women and girls of the Semitic race.

## ITALY.

The course of lectures at the Higher Female School (Scuola Superiore Femminile) at Rome, have commenced. This institution is patronised by Queen Margherita. The lectures are given by the University professors, and Italian statesmen and philosophers, such as Signori Minghetti and Mamiani, also give a lecture every season. Signor Bruniatti will instruct Italian ladies upon Constitutional Government, and his lecture on "Queen Victoria, a Constitutional Sovereign," is looked forward to with great interest.

## SWITZERLAND.

The *Daily News* correspondent of Jan. 27th, describes some establishments for the treatment of juvenile offenders in the Canton Vand. Besides those for boys where the children are taught agri-

culture, there is a third, situated at Moudon, for the reception of young girls, with the difference that feminine work is substituted for the agricultural work allotted to the boys. The inmates of Moudon are composed of girl-offenders sent thither by order of the Council of State, and of girls whose admission has been demanded by their parents and sanctioned by a bench of magistrates. The instruction given is scholastic and religious, the ends aimed at being moral and intellectual development. The educational department is in charge of a trained teacher, who lives in the house, while regular religious instruction is given by a pastor from Lausanne, and special sewing and dressmaking lessons are imparted by a skilled mistress of the art. In strict accordance with the principles observed in these disciplinary establishments from the beginning, the rule of treatment at Moudon is kindness—the life of the inmates is *une vie de famille* in the true sense of the word. The severest punishments awarded are a diet of bread and water and temporary seclusion in the offender's bedroom; but even these punishments are rarely resorted to, simple reprimands and denial of recreation being generally found sufficient for the maintenance of order. The inmates are almost always in contact with the lady manager, and are brought as much as possible under her influence. She works with them, eats with them, and walks with them. The older girls are not allowed to associate with the younger save when she is present, and they always occupy separate dormitories. Their general conduct is said to be excellent, and the occasions are rare indeed when they are not amenable to the firm yet gentle influence of the superintendent. The profit on their work goes to the State, but those who are exceptionally industrious and well-behaved are rewarded by remissions of their sentences, and sometimes by gifts of materials for their trousseaux, for which Swiss girls, even of the humblest class, are in the habit of making timely provision. At the expiration of their sentences, those of the girls who are not claimed by their families are taken in hand by a society of ladies at Lausanne and placed in suitable situations, which, thanks to their efforts, and the high character borne by the Moudon establishment, are found for them without difficulty. "The question of repressing juvenile offences," observes the report from which I quote, "and the right treatment of juvenile offenders, is one of the most important social questions of the day. A community pretending to be civilised cannot afford to lose so precious a capital as that which is represented by children abandoned by their families, given over to mendicity and vagabondage, and destined, unless rescued betimes, to become the enemies of the society in which they live. It is the interest of every State to organise a system of establishments for the reception of juvenile offenders, and, beyond measure, wiser to fill disciplinary schools with young castaways than to people prisons with mature criminals, hardened past hope of amendment."

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#### PARAGRAPHS.

THE SOCIAL POSITION OF WOMEN IN ANCIENT EGYPT.—While reading a recent pamphlet by Professor Ebers on "The Social Position of Women in Ancient Egypt," as



revealed by the legal documents lately deciphered, it struck me that other Englishwomen might be as interested in the affairs of their long dead sisters as I was. As Professor Ebers justly observes, the amount of honour paid to women in any country is usually held to be a criterion of its state of civilisation. According to this rule, ancient Egypt must have been more civilised in many respects than any existing state of society. The papyrus documents so far deciphered, relate principally to marriage settlements and the transfer of property; it is with the former documents and the inferences drawn from them and from other sources with which we have now to deal. By the marriage settlement the husband was obliged to endow the wife with an income sufficient to maintain her in case of their separation by his death or otherwise. Separation was effected by mutual consent, and the wife could decline to leave her husband if she pleased. A species of hand-fasting, or experimental union, of a year's duration was practised, a custom very repugnant to our modern notions, but even in these provisional unions the woman was well protected. Children born of such a union were legitimate heirs to their father's property, and the mother's settlement was secured to her even if she returned to her friends. Almost the only cause of separation, however, to be found in these documents is the want of an heir, the first-born being the primary consideration in all Egyptian affairs. The wife could decline to receive into the house any person, male or female, who was repugnant to her, though introduced by her husband; the home was emphatically the woman's kingdom. If she believed that her husband was squandering his property, she could obtain the protection of the law, and deprive him of the management thereof. The man as soon as he had direct heirs, merely retained a life interest in his possessions. The wife on all public occasions took as prominent a position as her husband, and appears socially to have received great consideration. The children took the mother's family name as well as the father's, and very often retained the former and dropped the latter. I do not give these facts for imitation, but we in England are so proud of our superiority to other nations in the respect we pay to women, that it is as well we should be reminded occasionally that nations whom we consider far behind us in culture, have been fully our equals in this matter.

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No. XCV.—MARCH 15TH, 1881.

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ART. I.—THE SENATE OF CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY AND WOMEN STUDENTS.

A BRILLIANT victory has been won for the cause of women's education in Cambridge. Nothing could have shown more distinctly the enormous advance that has been made in public opinion on this momentous question than the overwhelming vote of 398 against 32 which has given the force of law to the proposal for admitting women to University Examinations.

It will be remembered that memorials praying for the admission of women to academical degrees were presented last year to the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University numerous and influentially signed. These signatures included the names of 123 resident members of the Senate, 72 M.P.'s, the Dean of Canterbury, and more than 200 clergymen of the Established Church, about 200 Nonconformist Ministers, the Chairman, and 28 members of the London School Board, members of the City Companies, &c., &c. Probably such large and influential memorials to the University had never been collected within so short a space of time. On June 3rd, a Syndicate was appointed, of which the Vice-Chancellor was the head, to consider the subject of the memorials, and to report to the Senate. This report which was presented to the Senate last month was as follows:—

The Syndicate share the desire of the memorialists that the advantages of academic training may be secured to women, and that the

results of such training may be authoritatively tested and certified. For various reasons however, they are not prepared to recommend that women should be admitted, either to the degrees of the University generally, or to the B.A. degree alone. They believe that the two objects (advocated by some of the memorialists) may in a large measure be attained, and great encouragement be given to the higher education of women, by the formal admission of female students to the higher examinations of the University, together with an authoritative record of the results of their examination in published class lists. The advantages of allowing women to enter the general and special examinations for the ordinary B.A. degree are (the report says) less obvious, and the Syndicate abstain from making any recommendation on this head. They think that women admitted to the honour examinations should be required to have fulfilled the same conditions of residence as are imposed on members of the University; and that they should either have given the same evidence of preliminary training, by passing the previous examination of one of the various substitutes already accepted for it, or else should have obtained an honour certificate in the higher local examination, with the condition of passing in certain specified groups. They (the Syndicate) propose that the University should grant to each successful candidate a certificate setting forth the conditions under which she has been admitted to the tripos examination, and the standard to which she has attained. Should the recommendations of the Syndicate be approved by the Senate, the Syndicate propose to deal with various points of detail at a future time, as the amount of the fees to be paid, the places and conduct of the examinations, and exceptional regulations with regard to standing. The Syndicate recommend that residence be kept at Girton College, or Newnham College, or in any similar institution within the precincts of the University, which may be recognized hereafter by the University, by the grace of the Senate.

Our readers know that, as a matter of fact, several of the students of Girton and Newnham Colleges have for some years been allowed informally to compete in both the Classical and Mathematical Triposes, and the Examiners have let them know the place they would have obtained, had they been permitted to present themselves legitimately. The high position which some of these ladies have taken, and the success of the Higher Local Examinations conducted by the Cambridge and Oxford Universities have abundantly proved that women have the power of earnest study, and of standing the strain of competition. The point, as the *Times* observed, "was ruled ten years ago. Cambridge, in conniving at its public examiners examining Girton and Newnham students precisely as if they were Trinity or Johnian scholars, gave in spirit what is now demanded.

It seems ungenerous and not very rational for a University to let its authorities proclaim a man in the Senate House eighth wrangler, and inform Girton College that the real eighth wrangler was a woman."

The contest promised to be an exciting one. On February 11th, the members of the Senate met in the Arts School to discuss the report of the Syndicate. The Master of Emmanuel opened the discussion in the unavoidable absence of the Vice-Chancellor by contending that it was the imperative duty of the University to give all possible access to its educational advantages to women, and that the proposed scheme was only a step in that direction. He was followed by Mr. Austin Leigh (King's) who was quite willing to recommend that students of Girton and Newnham Colleges should be admitted to the Tripos Examinations, but objected to the condition precedent that they should pass the previous examination, and fulfil certain conditions of residence, and he thought that for women to go through the same course as male students would tax their physical strength too much. Dr. Champion thought that the examinations should not be restricted to the members of these Colleges, but extended to women all over the country, and this view was supported by several warm advocates of women's education, but was opposed, and justly, on the ground that there were no adequate reasons for admitting women-students from Nottingham or Sheffield to examinations when men-students from those places were excluded. With regard to the effect of competitive examination on the health of women, Professor Kennedy replied that, on the very high authority of Mrs. Garrett-Anderson, he was assured that on women from 14 to 17 the effect of competitive examinations was very bad, but after that age she gave the opinion as an eminent student of medicine, that there was nothing to interfere with their work through any physical danger. Professor Latham also added his testimony to this effect urging that an additional reason why the students should be limited to those resident at Girton and Newnham was the fact that in those institutions, as now conducted, every regard was paid to health. The reason why girls failed

when not in a house where due supervision was exercised was that they attempted to combine social gatherings with intellectual training, which was incompatible, and must result in failure of health. He had seen both male and female students suffering from the excitement known as "tripos fever," and the result of his observation was that women did not suffer to a greater extent than men, and that there was no element of ill-health brought about by the competition.

The general tone of the discussion was cordial and just towards the claims of women-students, but it was no secret that the opponents of change had summoned their heavy battalions for February 24th, the day on which the important vote would be taken. The rural clergy, it was said, who are generally on the side that is "perplexed with fear of change," were invited to come in great numbers to vote against the admission of these feminine intruders on the sacred soil of the University. On the other side, a letter was issued signed by some of the leading Cambridge Professors and Lecturers, saying that three graces (or proposals) embodying the proposals of the Syndicate were to be submitted to the Senate at 2.30 p.m., on Thursday, February 24th. "Although," it continued, "the majority of the speakers in the Arts School, on February 11th, were favourable, there is likely to be considerable opposition, and it is understood that, if this proposal is rejected, it will be rejected not on points of detail, but on grounds which are equally valid against any scheme which has been advocated for extending to women the advantages of education at the University. Further, the rejection of this proposal will not leave women in the same position as before, but will undoubtedly involve the cessation of the existing informal system under which female students are allowed to enter for the University Examinations. The occasion is, therefore, obviously a critical one for the future of English education, and the attendance and support of those members of the Senate who have signed memorials in favour of the admission of women to the University Examinations are urgently requested."

Canon Brereton also issued the following paper of reasons why the University should be one of the leading centres of female education:—

1. Because no line can be drawn separating main subjects of study or whole branches of learning into those suitable for men and unsuitable for women, or *vice versâ*. No true classification of human knowledge will admit of the distinction, "*Propria quæ maribus tribuuntur, mascula dicas.*"

2. Because the University as a chief inheritor and transmitter of learning from generation to generation has no right to dissociate itself from any great movement connected with the advancement of learning. The participation of women in the general and particularly in the higher studies of their time, must be a great fact and factor in the future of education.

3. Because whatever educational resources may be found elsewhere, those of Cambridge and Oxford are peculiar; and though as long as there was no public demand for these resources except from male students they were properly applied only to male education, now that a demand has sprung up and persistently declared itself on the part of the other sex, the University will incur the reproach of inhospitable partiality if it bars its doors, like a monastery, to female applicants for admission.

4. Because one of the legitimate wants and aspirations of the University—leisure for continued study and research—is likely to be promoted by increasing the amount of remunerative educational work done in the University. The more work, the more workers, and the more remuneration; and out of work, workers, and earnings, the legitimate and sure outcome will be leisure for the worthiest work and workers.

5. Because the education of women in England must, from irresistible national feelings and convictions, be religious and Christian; and if female education is centred in the University, a stimulus will be given to the best religious influences in study and life; and from these the English Universities have never for any long period been dissociated.

6.—Because any mischievous consequences that might be feared, whether to the University or to the students, by the admission of women, can be guarded against by suitable regulations, and still more by responsible authorities; whereas the diversion of the interests and influences that are gathering round the question of women's education from the University to other centres would be an irretrievable step, isolating the University for the future from a movement of great force and promise.

February 16, 1881.

J. L. BRERETON.

On the eventful day the friends of the higher education of women responded numerously to the call, and there was a crowded assemblage in the Senate House. Friends had come up to vote from Sheffield, Birmingham, Leeds, the south coast, and a special carriage brought down a large party of Members of Parliament from London. Several ladies were present in the gallery, but as a whole, the Girton and Newnham students

absented themselves, anxiously awaiting the result. This was not long doubtful. Three votes had to be taken. The first was on the recommendation of the Syndicate that female students who have fulfilled the conditions respecting length of residence, and standing, which members of the University are required to fulfil be admitted to the previous examination and the tripos examinations; the residence to be at either Girton or Newnham College, or within the precincts of the University under the regulation of one or other of these colleges. Then, in Paragraphs numbered 8 and 9, certain conditions were submitted for approval as follows: Paragraph 8 proposed, "That in each class of female students in which the names are arranged in order of merit, the place which each of such students would have occupied in the corresponding class of members of the University shall be indicated." Paragraph 9 proposed, "That the examiners for tripos shall be at liberty to state, if the case be so, that a female student who has failed to satisfy them has in their opinion reached a standard equivalent to that required from members of the University for the ordinary B.A. degree." Three *graces* were offered, one affirming the principle of the report, the second sanctioning the recommendation in Paragraph 8, and the third that in Paragraph 9. It became immediately evident that the *placets* had it, indeed, it was so evident that many persons who came prepared to vote *non placet* did not wait for the division, and others who were prepared to vote *placet* also went away, believing their presence to be unnecessary. Thus, as regards the grace offered, the voting was as under: Grace No. 1: *Placets*, 398; *non-placets*, 32. With regard to Paragraph No. 8: *Placets*, 258; *non-placets*, 26. All opposition to Paragraph 9 was abandoned. The cheering as these numbers were announced was deafening, and the good news speedily made its way to Girton and Newnham, and was telegraphed to expectant and anxious friends all over England.

The decision which the University has arrived at, is as wise as it is liberal, and shows the great progress which has been made of late years. The change is

after all greater in appearance than in reality, for there is nothing in this resolution of the Senate which will admit women either to the degrees of the University generally, or even to the B.A. degree alone. It simply legalises the examination and classification among the candidates for honours of the successful women-students, who hitherto have been informally examined and classified through the courtesy of the examiners. But the victory is none the less important, for if the proposal had been rejected, the position of women would have been greatly injured, as the existing informal system would undoubtedly have ceased, while, on the other hand, this overwhelming majority of 336 will be of potent force in clearing away the remaining obstacles to the full recognition of the educational rights of women. We may confidently hope that Oxford will shortly follow the good example of the younger University.

The new regulations will come into operation in the Easter term. Henceforward, therefore, the students of the two women's colleges have the right to look upon themselves, not as intruders whose presence is only connived at, but as acknowledged members of the University, not indeed as yet enjoying the same rank and dignities as the men-students, but entitled to claim the same practical benefits, and with reasonable hope of a full recognition of their equal claims at no very distant day.

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ART. II.—A REFORMATORY PRISON UNDER  
WOMEN'S GOVERNMENT.

THE Report has been recently issued of the Commissioners of Prisons in Massachusetts on the Reformatory Prison for Women in that State, which has now been established three years. This prison is remarkable as being entirely supervised and managed by ladies, only



the treasurer and steward being a man. On the 1st of September last, Mrs. E. C. Atkinson, who had been superintendent from the opening of the prison, resigned, and Dr. Eliza M. Mosher was on the same day appointed and qualified. The staff also includes the physician, who is Miss Lucia M. Hall, M.D.; the chaplain, Miss Susan P. Harrold; and the teacher, Miss L. E. Dodge. Five hundred and ten commitments were made in the course of last year, and the entire number committed to the prison from its commencement has been 1,917.

When this prison was first established, there was none other like it in the country, with the exception of some small institutions: and not only had the corps of officers to be trained, but the whole plan of labour and education had to be decided on. On every point it was necessary to make experiments, and much of the work had to be done more than once from lack of experience. Now the plans are working well, and seem better adapted to reform those capable of reformation than any other which have been tried. Three great instrumentalities are relied on for reform—labour, education, and religion—the last two, important as they are, would avail little without the first, and the constant superintendence and assistance of cultivated persons of their own sex, which has a wonderful effect for good on the prisoners.

In an earlier account we have read of this building, the home-like appearance and good arrangement of the prison were much dwelt on. Plants and flowers, of which the prisoners were very fond, were in all the rooms; and in many of the sleeping rooms pictures and souvenirs of friends were arranged—many of these were pictures of children, or domestic scenes. The women were chiefly employed in sewing, knitting, lace-making, and laundry work, and the general work of the establishment; but all the out-door work and gardening was also done by the prisoners, with the best results on their character.

Besides the superintendent, physician, chaplain, deputy superintendent, and teacher, there is a clerk, and fifty-five matrons, assistant matrons, and employées. The only men about the place are the treasurer, the

engineer, and firemen, three watchmen, and six other men in subordinate positions. The superintendent receives 1,500 dollars a year salary, the physician and chaplain 1,000.

The majority of the prisoners have been committed for offences against public order, such as drunkenness, or being idle or disorderly; 46 are sent to prison for offences against the person and property; and 112, a large proportion, for offences against chastity. The average term of imprisonment was about six months when the prison was first opened, but since 1880 no woman can be sent to the Reformatory Prison for less than one year, which gives a much better chance of forming habits of self-control and industry. So far as is possible the aim is to teach industries which will be profitable to those who learn them when they are released. The laundry, the sewing, and knitting rooms, and the various branches of housekeeping in which the prisoners are engaged, furnish an opportunity to all to acquire considerable skill in one or more employments. There is a good school in which the inmates take much interest, and an excellent library, which is much used. Of the prisoners who were committed last year, 133 could neither read nor write; but only three of these were American women, which is creditable to the common-school system of that country.

Religious influence is much relied on for the reformation of the prisoners. The chaplain is one of the principal officers, and is appointed by the governor, and her sole duty is the care of the moral and religious interests of the inmates, to which her entire time is devoted. The daily service in the chapel consists of Scripture readings, prayer, and singing by the prisoners; the Sunday services are more full, and include a sermon from the chaplain. The deportment of the prisoners is always quiet and reverent in chapel, and the influence of the daily service is good; but still more efficient is the chaplain's labour among the prisoners in going from cell to cell with the word of comfort, advice, or spiritual instruction. She is not called to participate in the discipline of the prison, and thus holds a relation to the prisoners which gives her an excellent influence, and

her efforts are heartily supported and supplemented by those of the other officers.

Of the qualifications of Mrs. Atkinson, the late superintendent, there appears to have been but one opinion. There was "one abiding faith in her, that good may overcome evil, and that the hardest heart and most perverted intellect may be touched by kindness." One of her aims was to try to secure through the co-operation of ladies interested in the work, good and safe places for the women when they were discharged; and there was great encouragement in the reports which had been received from these employers.

The Commissioners of Prisons, among whom we observe the names of two ladies, have the same power to discharge persons confined for any cause in this reformatory prison that the county commissioners have of discharging prisoners from houses of correction—the discharge in these cases is absolute. The law is not considered satisfactory, and last year only three prisoners were pardoned. In one case the husband of the prisoner, with his family, was moving from the State, and desired to take her with him; in another, the husband, a temperate sea-captain, was stopping in the State a few days between two voyages, and wished to place his wife in a good home in another State; the third, committed as "idle and disorderly," was released to marry the man who had led her astray. (Query.—Had not he been "idle and disorderly" too, and at least as fully deserving of prison as she?)

The prisoners are classified according to conduct. On first entering the prison a woman is placed in the second division; there is one below to which she may be degraded for bad behaviour, and two above to which she will be promoted for good conduct. There are various privileges belonging to the highest division, and no prisoner can be bound out until she has reached it. The results of this system have been very good, as the prisoners are ambitious to secure promotion, and particularly the diminution of the sentence, by being bound out. The Board has placed out in families sixty-eight prisoners, and only eight of these have betrayed the confidence reposed in them. Most of the remainder

have done admirably, and many of them remain permanently with the families to which they were bound, and give the strongest proofs of an entire change of purpose and life. The Board endeavours to select families that will take an interest in the welfare of the prisoners, doing much for them, and bearing much from them. One young woman who left the prison nearly a year since, writes, that in addition to boarding and clothing herself by her earnings, she has purchased a sewing machine, for which she pays by monthly instalments of five dollars. Another discharged prisoner has supported herself by working in a thread-mill, and is also devoting her surplus funds to the same object; and another, who since her discharge has been employed in domestic service, writes that having bought all the clothing she needs for the present, she is about to open a bank account with twenty-five dollars.

We have been thus particular in recording the success of this reformatory prison, because it was the first in America (there is still only one other) whose female criminals were placed exclusively under the management of members of their own sex; and it has been with the happiest results. There is no exactly similar example to be found in England. In 1855 a prison was opened at Cork for the reception of thirty female convicts from Grangegonnan, Dublin, and in a fortnight's time a further draft of sixty prisoners was made from the same place. Mrs. Delia Lidwell, was placed there as superintendent. She had a newly-appointed and totally inexperienced staff of officers to train, and for a time the conduct of the prisoners was far from satisfactory. The next year, however, the report states that they had become more docile, more self-respecting, and better aware of the value of cleanliness and order. A similarly good report was given by Mrs. Rawlins, superintendent of Grangegonnan Female Prison.

We wish that the experiment could be tried more fully in England by establishing female prisons, where every officer, from the first to the last, should be a woman. No one who has read the life of Elizabeth Fry can ignore the marvellous influence which an educated and Christian woman may obtain over the most abandoned

and degraded of her own sex, an influence far exceeding that of any man. There are methods of management, ways of showing sympathy and kindness, which women only can find out, and which might be of powerful effect in redeeming the unfortunate and vicious inmates of our prisons. Such lady superintendents and physicians, backed up by intelligent and competent matrons, and supported by the help of the Ladies' Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies, to carry on the work outside the prison walls, would, we believe, do much to secure the real reformation of the criminals, and diminish the number of re-committals.

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### ART. III.—THE MOVEMENT FOR UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE IN ITALY.

ITALIAN ladies are taking a very decided part in this movement. An important meeting of "the Committee of Committees," as it is called by its promoters, was held at Rome during three days of the last month, under the presidency of Signor Bertani, in favour of universal suffrage. Eight hundred Working Men's Societies were represented there by delegates on the 12th of February. Anna Maria Mozzoni delivered a remarkable address in favour of extending the suffrage to women. After having recalled in eloquent terms the share that women had taken in all the great political movements on behalf of human progress during the last hundred years, she continued: "I ask of all the Mazzinians if, in the works of their immortal master, they can cite a single word in support of a moral inequality between man and woman. ("No, no," from the Mazzinians, and loud applause.) I ask the Socialists if the emancipation of woman is not the essential foundation of the reforms they advocate. ("Yes, yes," and applause from the Socialists.) I ask the Parliamentary democracy if they believe that the votes which

opened the doors of the House to them have been given by intellects superior in any degree to the intellect of women. 'To conclude, I tell the whole of the Italian democracy that if they exclude women from the benefit of social reforms, they will not only render themselves ridiculous, but impotent.'

At the conclusion of her address, the Assembly voted an order of the day affirming the right of women to the suffrage.

On the following day, February 13th, the third and last sitting of the Committee took place, and the following resolution was approved of after a long discussion:— "The Central Committee recognising that the right to vote is a human right; considering that humanity is composed and represented by men and women; recognising the impossibility of solving the social question, unless the conditions of exclusion, minority, and subjection in which the half of humanity is held, cease; abiding by its principles, and desirous of justice, which is for the interest of all, it recognises, confirms, and proclaims for women as well as for men, the integral right to the vote." The Mazzinian party supported this resolution heartily, but it was less cordially received by the other sections of the Committee, who feared it would prove another practical difficulty added to those already menacing the cause of universal suffrage. The resolution was, however, approved and passed. About three thousand persons were present at this meeting, mostly delegates, and the importance of this resolution in deciding the future course of the party can therefore hardly be over-estimated.

Petitions signed by some hundreds of women in favour of the Suffrage have been presented in the House of Representatives, but Signor Zanardelli moved their rejection, basing his argument chiefly on the small number of signatures, compared with the ten millions of women in Italy. (We seem to remember the same argument in our own House of Commons in former years against extending the suffrage to women.)

The *Droit des Femmes* announces that a new association has commenced work in Milan under the title of "League for the Defence of Female Interests." The

subscription, probably with a view to its wide extension among the working classes, is of the smallest—a half-penny per week. The programme of the Association is somewhat in the same terms as the resolution of the Congress, and says:—

“Believing that the interests of women are indissolubly connected with the interests of nations and humanity, and that the systematic sacrifice of these rights in the public and private relations of life, produces barbarity of laws, corruption of morals, and hardness of institutions. Believing, moreover, that no legal way is open to women to affirm their grievances and claim the reforms which interest them, as long as the right of voting is denied them, the League declares that man and woman are equally persons, neither more nor less, and thus have equal rights to the vote, to labour, to salary, and to responsibility, and are equal under the moral law, which is in harmony with the laws of nature and science: and the League proposes to work for the amelioration of the social condition of women by studying the questions which concern them, and diffusing and applying the answers to these questions.”

It will be remembered that Italian women have already a real, though exceedingly limited, electoral right. A woman who pays not less than 40 *lire* taxes can, if she be a widow, or legally separated from her husband, authorise her son, or son-in-law, to vote for her. In the selection of some masculine representative her right appears to terminate. It is evident that this is a very different thing from the full equality which the party for “Universal Suffrage” now claims for her. In some respects Italian public opinion has been in advance of English opinion. We must all remember that Italian Universities were open to women students for some years before the London University adopted that just and generous course. It would be strange, and not too flattering to our national vanity, if Italian women should have the suffrage conceded to them sooner than it is obtained by our own countrywomen.

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#### ART. IV.—LACE MANUFACTURE IN SILESIA.

The *Deutsche Frauen-Anwalt* in its first number for 1881 has the following communication from Anna Schepeler Lette:—

"It wants but a few months of fifteen years since the Lette-Verein was formed, and we can to-day look back on that time, as one of care and work, but also of blessing. Through strong co-operation it has been possible to carry out the plans of the founder for the welfare of women, and to-day we stand at the point where, with courageous heart, we can reach out beyond the limits of the Lette-house, to give a helping hand to others somewhat remote from us.

"His Excellency the Cultus Minister invited me to examine the condition of the lace-manufacture in Silesia, and to suggest plans for the encouragement of this industry which seems about to die out. I responded to this call with joyful pride. It is indeed the first time that the authorities have shown confidence in a woman's ability to rightly recognize what is amiss, and to make suitable plans for improvement.

"On the 7th of last November, in a wintry snow storm, I started on my tour of inspection. I have travelled over many parts of our dear mother earth, but had never visited Silesia, so I may perhaps be pardoned if I felt a little anxious. Silesia has ever been represented as the land of bitterest poverty and consequent degradation. A sharp contrast to this poverty and to the wretched fate of the inhabitants is the work of the women; this beautiful lace, intended to serve as the richest decoration of the most elegant toilets,—the delight of every woman, and already the pride of our great grand-mothers.

"On the gentle slope of the Riesengebirge between Hirschberg and Schmiedeberg is a broad rolling plateau, where one village follows another, and a lovely view is offered for all who enjoy picturesque natural beauty. But in the poor little cottages is bitter poverty, for neither does the ground yield sufficient nourishment nor the after-growth of the cleared woods furnish sufficient fuel. Here lives a good-humoured, frugal people, who, in consequence of long years of privation, are indifferent even to indolence. The man goes to his factory work or into the woods as wood-cutter, or carries on some small employment at home. The woman cares as well as she can for the crowd of children who, bloated and scrofulous from their potato-diet, help in the care of each other or, by means of coarse hemp spinning, add a little to the scanty earnings of the parents.

"In just appreciation of these conditions, the State government, about twenty-six years ago, decided to introduce into the Riesengebirge the lace manufacture (*Points à l'aiguille*.) Herr Wechselman received a considerable sum of money in order to bring teachers from Brussels and to take the necessary steps for the introduction of the new



industry. Hundreds of women offered themselves as apprentices and in a comparatively short time it was possible to furnish the foreign market with 'points' which are in no way inferior to the Brussels, and which (as I know from competent authority) pass for Brussels in Belgium and America. The most skilful workwomen were installed in different places as teachers, and although the pay was small (for work from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., teachers received from 7.50 to 8.50 dollars a month, and workwomen only from 5.00 to 6.50 dollars), still it seemed a hopeful prospect, as the housewives and mothers could, in connection with this work, still care for their families.

"But alas! our ladies have not patriotic pride to prefer an equally good article of home manufacture to a foreign one; indeed, they rather depreciate its value because it is cheaper than the heavily taxed imported article. Moreover, we have not usually, as in Belgium, England, and America, the means to wear lace shawls and dresses whose patterns are unique; and so it was very difficult for the lace manufacture to establish itself in Germany, and to get possession of the market. At the same time, Fashion, that world-ruling tyrant, stepped into the ranks against it, and called forth the cheap machine lace as a substitute, which soon drove from the stage the handmade lace, most beautiful adornment of the feminine toilet. So, gradually, after less than ten years of life, the lace manufacture of Riesengebirge fell asleep.

"The World's Exhibition in Vienna in 1873 first called renewed attention to this manufacture, and the collection of laces from different countries aroused emulation in that branch of industry. Since that time much has been written and spoken in regard to the renewal of this manufacture. That many factors must be taken into consideration in a renewal and encouragement of this industry, is self-evident. The refinement of taste, the training of skilful draughtswomen, new and tasteful compositions are necessary in order to be able to put the laces in competition with those of England and Belgium. The necessary plans for this end must be thoroughly considered and arranged, in order to be successfully carried out as we hope they may be.

"After consultation with the kind and considerate Burgomaster of Schmiedeberg, I made my tour of inspection under the guidance of a teacher who is not only an able artist in her especial branch, but has a warm and sympathetic heart for the poor workwomen. The 'Frau Meisterin,' as she is everywhere called, received a hearty welcome. I have seen the work of the lacemakers in ten villages. Everywhere the women took part, with love and interest, in the artistic work which is neatly executed even by hands callous with hard labour. The prospect that their children shall also receive instruction in the same industry was a joyous gift to them."

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## THE LAW COURTS.

### No. 1.

#### MONTHLY DIGEST OF DECISIONS ON POINTS OF LAW AFFECTING WOMEN.

The following decisions of especial interest to women have been recently reported.

The following are the references to the various reports and legal publications in which the cases noted here, will be found fully reported:—App. Cas.—Law Reports, Appeal Cases. C.P.D.—Law Reports, Common Pleas Division. Ch. D.—Law Reports, Chancery Division. Ex. D.—Law Reports, Exchequer Division. L. J. Chanc.—Law Journal Reports, Chancery. L.J.Q.B. (C. P. or Ex.)—Law Journal Reports, Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer. L.T.—Law Times Newspaper. L.T.N.S.—Law Times Reports, New Series. P.D.—Law Reports, Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Divisions. Q.B.D.—Law Reports, Queen's Bench Division. S.J.—Solicitor's Journal. W.N.—Weekly Notes. W.R.—Weekly Reporter.

**DIVORCE—DECREE NISI—RE-MARRIAGE BEFORE DECREE ABSOLUTE—INVALIDITY OF SECOND MARRIAGE.**—In the year 1868, W. obtained a decree *nisi* for the dissolution of her marriage upon the ground of the cruelty and misconduct of her husband. Upon the decree *nisi* being pronounced, W. was told by her solicitor, that before taking effect it would have to be made *absolute*, but that this was a mere matter of form, to which he would attend, and that she would have no further trouble in the matter. W.'s solicitor subsequently died without having had the decree *nisi* made absolute, and W., in the belief that this had been done, married again in 1871.

In 1880 W. became aware for the first time that the decree *nisi* had not been made absolute, and that her second marriage was, consequently, invalid, and she thereupon applied to the Court that the decree *nisi* might be made absolute, and that it might be made retrospective, so as to render valid her second marriage.

*Held*—that there being no opposition the decree *nisi* might be made absolute, but that the Court had no power to give it a retrospective effect (*Wickham v. Wickham*, 6, P.D., 11; 43, L.T.N. S. 445.)

*Note*—A decree *nisi* is always made in the first instance, and this is made absolute at the end of six months upon application to the Court, provided no one has in the meantime appeared to show cause against such decree being made absolute. Neither party can, however, marry again until the expiration of one month (formerly three months), from the date of the decree absolute—that being the time within which an appeal from the decree absolute must be brought. The status of a married woman is not affected by the pronouncing of a decree *nisi* but she continues subject to all disabilities of coverture until that decree has been made absolute.

MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT—COVENANT TO SETTLE AFTER ACQUIRED PROPERTY OF WIFE NOT OTHERWISE SETTLED PREVIOUSLY TO DEVOLVING—LEGACY TO WIFE FOR HER SEPARATE USE.—By a settlement made on the marriage of K. certain property was settled upon trust for her for life, and upon trusts for the benefit of her husband and any children there might be of the marriage. The settlement also contained a covenant by K. and her husband that, if at any future time during their joint lives any further property should devolve upon either of them, such property should be settled by them upon trusts similar to those contained in their marriage settlement, with the exception of such property *as should be otherwise settled previously to the same devolving*.

Subsequent to K.'s marriage, a legacy of £2,000 was bequeathed to her under a will, such legacy to be *for her sole and separate use*, free from the control, debts, and engagements of any husband. Upon the question coming before the Court as to whether the £2,000 ought to be settled by K. and her husband as after acquired property *not otherwise settled previously to devolving* in accordance with the covenant contained in their marriage settlement, or whether such legacy could be said to be *settled* upon K. by the donor by the terms of the will.

*Held*—that the legacy was given out and out to K. for her sole and separate use, so that the entire capital was at her disposal, and that to bring it under settlement would defeat the intention of the donor of the legacy. That the covenant in the settlement to settle after acquired property could not be said to include property given to a woman *for her sole and separate use* free from the control, debts, and engage-

ments of any husband, and that the legacy, therefore, came within the exceptional words of the covenant in the marriage settlement (*Kane v. Kane*, 43. L.T.N.S. 667; 29, W.R. 212; W.N. 4th December, 1880, p. 186.)

*Note*—This case and that of *Bland v. Dawes*, post. p. are inserted here as being of interest in showing that where it is evidently the intention of a donor to give a married woman certain property for her separate use unfettered by any restraint on the part of her husband, the law is careful to see that such intention is strictly carried out.

LEGACY—"SOLE USE AND DISPOSAL"—SEPARATE USE.—By the will of her aunt a legacy of £5,000 was bequeathed to F. for her *sole use and disposal*. At the date when her aunt's will was made F. was married, and when the legacy fell due her husband was dead.

Upon the question coming before the Court as to whether the legacy was given to F. by her aunt for her *separate use*, or whether the representatives of F.'s husband were entitled to the money.

*Held*—That it was evidently the intention of F.'s aunt that the legacy should be for her separate use—to the exclusion of her husband—and that the words *sole use and disposal* clearly showed such an intention, since F. could not dispose of the legacy unless it was her separate estate. (*Bland v. Dawes*, W. N., 29th January, 1881, p. 7).

HUSBAND AND WIFE—MARRIED WOMAN SUEING ALONE.—By Order 16, Rule 8 of the Judicature Act, 1875 (38 and 39 Vict., cap. 77), married women may . . . by the leave of the Court or a judge, sue or defend without their husbands and without a next friend, on giving such security (if any) for costs as the Court or a judge may require.

The plaintiff, who had been twice married, was entitled under the will of her first husband to certain leasehold property absolutely, and to certain other leasehold property as trustee of such will. Previous to her second marriage she appointed the defendant her agent to collect the rents of these properties.

The plaintiff subsequently went to New Zealand, where she married the defendant's son, who was then an infant under twenty-one years of age, and he, previous to the marriage, entered into an agreement by

which he undertook to settle the whole of the plaintiff's property upon her. This, however, he neglected to do, and shortly after the marriage he deserted her. The plaintiff thereupon obtained a protection order from a magistrate to protect any earnings she might gain, and upon her return to England shortly afterwards she obtained a similar order.

Upon the plaintiff applying to the defendant for payment of the rents received by him, he refused to pay them to her upon the grounds (1) that as to the rents received from the leaseholds to which she was, previous to her marriage, entitled absolutely, her husband was now entitled to such rents, and that he (the defendant) was bound to retain them for him and (2) that as to the rents derived from the property to which she was entitled as trustee, her husband by his marriage became co-trustee with her, and she could not without him give a valid receipt for such rents.

The plaintiff then commenced an action against the defendant in her own name for the recovery of the rents without having first obtained leave, whereupon the defendant applied that the action might be stayed until the plaintiff joined a next friend or gave security for costs, but this application was dismissed both in chambers and also on appeal to the Court.

Upon the trial of the action by a judge without a jury, the judge held that the plaintiff could not sue in her own name without her husband, and gave judgment for the defendant. The plaintiff appealed, and contended that the protection orders obtained by her gave her the right to sue in her own name without her husband.

*Held*—On appeal (1) that the protection orders only gave the plaintiff a right to sue in her own name for earnings and property acquired by her after obtaining such orders, of which there were none in this case. (2) that the plaintiff's husband being an infant at the date of his marriage, the agreement for a settlement was not binding on him, and he was therefore entitled to the rents of the leaseholds to which the plaintiff was, previous to her marriage, entitled absolutely, and the defendant was entitled to retain them for him, and (3).

that with regard to the property to which the plaintiff was entitled as trustee, she could maintain an action for the recovery of the rents of such property upon first obtaining leave (the marriage not making her husband co-trustee, although liable for his wife's engagements as such trustee)—That such leave might be granted at any time after the commencement of the action, and was in fact granted by the refusal of the defendant's application—and that such being the case the plaintiff could give a valid discharge for any moneys she might recover in the present action, and was therefore entitled to recover from the defendant the rents received by him as her agent from the property for which she was trustee.

*Note.*—This case, though principally deciding a point of practice, is inserted here on account of its general importance. The plaintiff, having been deserted by her husband, it would have been hard if she had not been allowed to maintain the action in her own name with respect to that property for which she was trustee, and in which her husband had no interest.

With regard to the other property, to which the plaintiff was previous to her marriage entitled absolutely, it consisting of leaseholds and not being settled upon her for her sole and separate use, became the property of her husband directly after the marriage.

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#### UNREPORTED DECISIONS.

A DIGEST of recent cases of interest to women which appear from time to time in the newspapers, and are not yet reported in the various "Law Reports."

Whilst every care is taken, the Editors cannot pledge themselves to the accuracy of the reports under this heading.

**MARRIED WOMAN—ASSIGNMENT OF LEASEHOLDS TO HUSBAND—UNDUE INFLUENCE.**—The plaintiff, a married woman, who, previous to her marriage, was possessed of the lease of a public-house, agreed upon the defendant marrying her, to assign the lease to him, which she accordingly did. Differences arose between the parties after the marriage, and the plaintiff brought an action against her husband to set aside or vary the deed of assignment, which she alleged was made by her through undue influence and under undue pressure by her husband, and she also asked for an injunction to restrain her husband from disposing of or dealing with the lease, or the fixtures, stock-in-trade, and furniture of the public-house, which latter it appeared her husband had, previous to the marriage, agreed should be her separate property. The plaintiff, pending the trial of the action

applied for the appointment of a receiver and manager of the business carried on at the public-house by her husband.

*Held*—by the Court of Appeal reversing the decision of Malins, V. C., that the plaintiff was not entitled to her application—that it was quite clear that the defendant had stipulated before marrying the plaintiff that the lease should be assigned to him, and that there was no ground whatever for saying that any undue influence or undue pressure had been exercised, but that even assuming that there had been, and that the deed was in consequence set aside, the lease would still be the property of the husband, there having been no contract on his part to settle the lease on the plaintiff, and that with regard to the other property which the defendant had agreed should be the separate property of the plaintiff, this the defendant must undertake not to dispose of except to his wife (*Monk v. Monk*.)

*Note*—It seems curious that the husband should have insisted upon the lease being assigned to him, since it would have become his property in any case upon his marriage with the plaintiff, it being personal property not settled or agreed to be settled to her separate use. In any case the plaintiff could hardly expect to get out of a bargain which appeared distinctly to have been made as one of the considerations for the marriage.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### EDUCATION.

#### ADMISSION OF WOMEN TO THE UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

*The following Circular has been lately issued.*

THE University of Durham is a body corporate, possessing by Royal Charter the right of granting degrees in the Faculties of Arts, Theology, Medicine, and Science. It was originally endowed out of funds belonging to the Cathedral, for the purpose of affording a University education to persons who, for whatever reason, were unable to avail themselves of the advantages of Oxford and Cambridge.

The Faculties of Medicine and Physical Science have their seat at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Students in Arts and Theology reside either in one of two Colleges in Durham itself, or as unattached Students in private houses in that city.

Scholarships of considerable value are annually awarded to students in Arts or Matriculation, and others are attainable later in their course.

The Lectures and Exhibitions in the College of Science are open to both sexes on equal terms. An application has just been made to the Senate of the University to admit a lady who is now an Exhibitioner and regular Student at the College of Science to compete on the next occasion for the Scholarships open to Students in Arts at entrance, and to proceed through the ordinary Arts Curriculum to the degree of B.A. There is reason to believe that the Senate is not altogether unfavourable to the proposal, and should the request be granted, it will furnish a precedent by following which ladies may be enabled to combine the advantages of University residence with that of a degree in Arts.

It is earnestly requested that persons interested in the Higher Education of Women will assist in this matter by memorialising the Warden and Senate of the University of Durham, or in any other way in their power. Memorials from persons having experience of the conduct of mixed classes will be especially valuable.

Memorials should be sent to the Very Reverend The Dean of Durham, Warden of the University, Durham, accompanied by a letter stating the object of the Memorial, the character of the signatories, and asking for an acknowledgment. A note to myself stating the number of signatures and the principal names attached to any Memorial sent in will be esteemed a favour.

MARY STEDMAN ALDIS.

*Tynemouth, Northumberland,*  
*February, 1881.*

The following is suggested as a general form of Memorial:—

*To the Warden and Senate of the University of Durham.*

The Memorial of the undersigned

SHEWETH—

That in the interests of Higher Education in the North of England, it is desirable that the advantages of the University of Durham should be made accessible to women qualified by



previous education to avail themselves of them.

That your Memorialists therefore pray that you will take such steps as may be necessary to admit such women as Students in Arts in the University, on the same terms, and with the same privileges as regards Scholarships and the degree of B.A. as are at present enjoyed by unattached Students of the University.

Forms for signature can be obtained from Mrs. Aldis. If well supported we may hope for success.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—At the Annual General Meeting on February 23rd, of the Members, Miss Frances Martin was admitted as one of the Life Governors of the College.

APPROPRIATION OF ENDOWMENT FOR GIRLS' EDUCATION FOR THE USE OF BOYS—GRANTOWN SCHOOL.

On February 13th, in the House of Commons, Mr. THOMASSON asked whether the scheme of the Grantown Female Infant School, by which a recent endowment for female education was to be used for bursaries for children of both sexes, is in accordance with the principle of the Endowed Institutions (Scotland) Bill of this Session.

Mr. PENNINGTON asked whether, by the provisional order relating to the Grantown Female Infant School, laid on the table of the House on January 6, an endowment made in the year 1861 for the exclusive benefit of female children had been appropriated for the higher education of children of both sexes, and for the foundation of bursaries; whether such bursaries were for girls only or for boys; and whether, considering that endowments for the education of girls were comparatively few in number, the Government approved of the appropriation of any portion of this endowment to the education of boys.

Mr. HENDERSON asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he would withdraw the provincial order relating to the Grantown Female Infant School, until the state of public business would

enable a discussion to be taken upon the propriety of the scheme sanctioned by such order.

Mr. MUNDELLA: The question relating to the Grantown provisional order will be answered by the Lord Advocate, as the Education Department is not the final authority under the Scotch Act of 1878. The Endowments Bill of this Session specially proposes in section 15 that in framing schemes provision shall be made for extending to girls the benefits of endowments, and so long as I am associated with the Education Department, I will endeavour to secure a fair share for the girls.

The LORD ADVOCATE: The Grantown Endowment consists of two legacies amounting to £1,800, one-half of which has been applied to building a school, which had, in fact, been used for the education of children of both sexes. The governing body desired to legalise that usage. The Commissioners, after taking evidence, and without objection from the locality, reported in favour of the scheme, and the Education Department saw no objections to it. It did not appear to me, as legal adviser of the Home Department, that there were any good reasons for disagreeing with the recommendation of the governing body and the Commissioners. The English Endowed Schools Act, 1869, contains a direction to the Commissioners in framing schedules to provide for the extension to girls of the benefit of educational endowments. I therefore could not suppose that the extension of the benefit of the Grantown Endowment to both sexes was either inequitable in itself or opposed to parliamentary policy.—*Suffrage Journal*.

#### THE RIPLEY HOSPITAL, LANCASTER.

The *Manchester Guardian* records that the late Mrs. Ripley, foundress of the Hospital at Lancaster, which bears her name, has left for the maintenance of this institution nearly the whole of her estate, which has been sworn under £250,000. The hospital which has now been in operation about sixteen years, is intended for the education and maintenance of orphans and indigent children, orphans or children of widows, born

in the town of Lancaster or in its neighbourhood. One wing of the building is appropriated to boys, the other to girls. About 200 children have already enjoyed its benefits, and entered upon the duties of life. Boys remain until they are fifteen years of age, girls a year longer, after which they must perforce quit the institution. On leaving, a respectable outfit is provided for them, which is renewed annually during the next four years. It is satisfactory to be able to state that almost without exception, the children have done well on leaving the institution, the lads being eagerly accepted as railway and telegraph clerks, and in other similar employments, whilst the girls make excellent domestic servants, shop assistants, and pupil teachers, some being engaged also in the telegraph service.

#### LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS.

On March 10th the London School Board discussed the report of the Committee on the appointment of a seventh inspector of schools at a commencing salary, according to the scale of the Board, of £300 per annum, with an additional allowance of £50 per annum for travelling expenses. The Committee recommended "That it be an instruction to the School Management Committee to nominate a female for appointment." The Committee stated that they had given careful consideration to the question, and they recommended that in the advertisement to be issued for the seventh inspector the following words be inserted: "A woman is eligible for appointment." This was passed, 20 voting for it, and 20 against, the Chairman, Sir Charles Reed, giving the casting vote in favour.

NEEDLEWORK.—At a meeting of the London School Board on February 24th, Miss Sempil was appointed the second examiner of needlework at a salary of £150, with reasonable expenses, vice Mrs. Floyer who had resigned.

By permission of the Council, Mrs. Floyer gave a lecture on February 26th, in the board room of the High School, Queen's Anne's Gate, in connection with the London Institute for the Advancement of Plain Needle-

work. She dwelt on the importance of teaching needlework in the High Schools, so that the future employers of those who are now receiving, by means of the new system, such complete instruction in the National schools, shall be able, at least, to hold their own.

BIRMINGHAM.—An important extension of the educational resources of Birmingham is announced, namely, an enlargement of the scope of the foundation of King Edward's School, so as to provide a high school for Girls.

#### SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

YARMOUTH.—The polling for eleven members of the School Board of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, took place on February 4th. Mrs. Leach, the only lady candidate, was returned eighth on the poll with 2,856 votes.

#### POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

It is to be hoped that a considerable increase in the number of women who are placed on the Boards of Guardians will take place next month. This is a matter in which all women, political and non-political, should take an interest, as it concerns so largely the welfare of the women and children who form so large a majority of the paupers. We understand that three ladies—Miss Florence Davenport Hill, Miss Andrews (who is already Guardian), and Miss Lidgett—will be nominated as candidates in different wards in St. Pancras, and possibly a fourth will come forward. Another lady, Mrs. Charles, is designated for Marylebone, and Kensington is desirous to carry two ladies—Miss Doukin and Mrs. Samuel Shaen. Islington, Hampstead, and Wandsworth will probably also have women among their candidates. A Committee for this purpose has been formed in Bristol, which hopes to secure the election of two ladies.

AN excellent little leaflet has been issued by the Society for Promoting the return of Women as Poor Law Guardians:—

*Reasons for having Ladies as Poor Law Guardians.*

Because the larger number of paupers are women and children.

Because the great evil of pauperism can only be diminished by more care in the bringing up of children.

Because the girls brought up in pauper schools require the superintendence of ladies, to insure their better training for domestic work.

Because ladies are accustomed to visit among the poor, and are well acquainted with their requirements.

Because ladies have leisure, and can give careful attention to matters brought before the Boards of Guardians.

Because many of the women who are brought before Guardians ought to be dealt with only by their own sex.

Because ladies being accustomed to household management, are certain to exercise rigid economy in details.

For these reasons the support of the ratepayers to secure the election of a fair proportion of women as Poor Law Guardians is earnestly requested.

An annual subscription of 2s. 6d. constitutes membership of the Society. For general information, apply to the Hon. Sec., Miss Eva Müller, 86, Portland Place, W.

### **WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.**

#### **GREAT DEMONSTRATION IN BIRMINGHAM.**

The fifth great Demonstration of Women in favour of obtaining the Parliamentary Franchise took place on February 22nd, and it was a truly inspiring gathering. Despite the inclement season, for the snow had been thickly falling all day, the great Town Hall was crowded some time before the proceedings began. The Birmingham Town Hall, which was once considered the largest in England, though it has been since surpassed, holds more than 4,000 persons, and the women still came thronging to the door in hundreds, walking through the snowstorm, and petitioning to be admitted so earnestly that one of the policemen on duty declared it was fortunate for him that the season was so inclement, or he would not have known how to deal with the "mob of women" who would have come. An overflow meeting, as it was, took place at the room of the Young Men's Christian Association, over which Mrs. R. W. Dale presided, and many of those who were necessarily excluded from the great meeting, were so earnest in the cause that they proceeded thither, though the streets were covered with snow and slush.

The great meeting was presided over by Mrs. H. W. Crosskey, who is well known in Birmingham, and who

reminded the audience that her first participation in political work, like that of many other ladies, had been during the Corn Law struggle, when they combined and worked and collected money under Bright and Cobden. Women were not deficient in mental power nor in the peculiar faculty of organising. During the American War the entire organisation of the sanitary commission was the work of women from beginning to end, and the Government, though sceptical of their power at first, acknowledged afterwards, gratefully, the surpassing excellence of their work. The vote would conduce to a higher life among women. No wise woman would neglect her home duties for the sake of passing Bills in Parliament, but the one need not interfere with the other, and these wider interests would tend to fill up those terrible deficiencies in home life which were caused by the want of intelligent sympathy between men and women.

When Mrs. Crosskey had ended her excellent address, the first resolution—that a memorial should be sent to the Prime Minister, praying “that in any measure introduced for the extension of the household suffrage in the counties, provision may be made for the exercise of the parliamentary franchise by all duly qualified women in boroughs or counties”—was moved by Mrs. Alfred Southall. This was seconded by Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, and supported by Miss Becker, Mrs. Beddoe from Clifton, and Miss Eliza Sturge. The next resolution, appointing a deputation, was moved by Mrs. A. C. Osler, and also spoken to by Mrs. Fenwick Miller, M.L.S.B., Miss Downing, Miss C. A. Biggs, and Miss Craigen. When this resolution was carried, the cheering became most enthusiastic among the hearty working-women, householders and others, who filled the Hall. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs. C. E. Mathews and Mrs. R. W. Dale, who, the overflow meeting being over, had returned to the Hall.

Not the least noticeable part of this demonstration were the articles expressing cordial sympathy that appeared in the *Birmingham Mail*, and also in the *Daily Post*. Eighteen preceding meetings had also been held in the various wards, at which gentlemen of high local

standing had taken the chair, and spoken with hearty good will to the cause. Three ladies also, Mrs. C. E. Mathews, Mrs. George Dixon, and Mrs. George Mathews had kindly offered their drawing rooms for meetings.

EDINBURGH.—The Annual Meeting of the Edinburgh Society took place on March 3rd, at 5, St. Andrew Square, Mrs. Duncan McLaren presided. The report which was read by Miss Wigham, referred to the withdrawal of Mr. Duncan McLaren, the beloved and revered senior member for Edinburgh. They deeply regretted that they would no longer have his faithful services in the House, where, from the first presentation of the bill for the removal of the Electoral Disabilities of Women by John Stuart Mill in 1867, he had supported it and every measure for the advancement of women. He was entitled to their warmest thanks for his constant aid, sympathy, and counsel. He had been succeeded by his son, the Lord Advocate, and his influence, so far as he was at liberty to exercise it, would, they felt confident, be given on their side. Dr. Cameron, M.P., had this session brought forward his motion for the amendment of the municipal franchise in Scotland, which had been passed by the House of Commons, and which, they hoped, would have a safe passage through the Lords. By it women ratepayers would be able to vote in the election of town councillors, and they offered their warm thanks to Dr. Cameron for his services. Five Scotch town councils had petitioned in favour of that bill. The grant of the municipal franchise to women in England had had a useful bearing on the parliamentary representation, and had been exercised on the side of a higher tone of public morality.

Mrs. McLaren in her address said, that some of our laws showed little equality towards women, and instanced some recent cases in support of her argument:—

When the dreadful revelations were made showing how British girls were decoyed to the Continent, and instead of there obtaining honourable employment as promised, were forced into a traffic worse than slavery, one man had spoken out, and he had written to her on the subject, and expressed his thankfulness that women themselves now had the courage to expose the system. Then there were thr

very unjust sentences which she had noticed, recently administered by British magistrates. One was at Durham, where a poor girl or woman, who had just been liberated from jail, was sentenced to three months' hard labour, for stealing a pair of stockings she had been knitting while in prison, of the value of 2s. 6d.; and perhaps that woman when she was sent out had not had a penny with which to buy bread, and was a fit subject for such an institution as the Released Prisoners' Aid Society of Edinburgh. On the same day a man was sentenced to six months' hard labour for an aggravated assault on a woman. After having asked her for ten shillings, which she had not to give him, he dragged her into a room, shut the door, knocked her down, and kicked her, and then lifted her and dashed her against the hot bars of the grate. Was that man fit, in six months, to go again amongst women? The next case was in Edinburgh, not long ago. A man assaulted a woman in the Lawnmarket, knocked her down, kicked her, placed a pillow over a mouth to deaden her cries, atrociously used her, and then threw water over her. He pleaded that he was drunk, and Sheriff Davidson did say that drunkenness did not entitle him to gentler treatment, yet the Sheriff passed what she thought a very gentle punishment—five months' imprisonment. She was tempted to exclaim:—"Alas! that flesh and blood should be so cheap when that flesh and blood is woman!"

THE election under the new Reform Act in the Isle of Man is rapidly drawing near, and candidates are addressing their constituents, women as well as men. Considerable and very justifiable self-congratulation is expressed that this little island should have been the first of the British dominions to grant the principle of Women's Suffrage. An immediate proof is shown of the impetus that will be given to all measures for the benefit of women as soon as the suffrage is granted. In the election addresses, some candidates include among the list of measures they promise to support, the extension of the franchise to female occupiers, and the *Married Women's Property Act*. In England, where the constituencies are composed of men only, no candidate wastes his time in promising to do anything for women.

#### WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

The *Manchester Guardian* says:—

The Manx general election is approaching—for the various towns and shreadings—and preparatory thereto a revised list of voters has been compiled, which includes the female voters enfranchised under the recently passed Election Act. A long notice of this Act has appeared in the columns of the *Guardian*. It will be remembered that under it female owners of property of the annual value of £4 and upwards are placed on the electoral roll. The revising advocates



have held courts in several of the towns and for all the country districts during the past week, and it may be interesting to some of our readers to learn the result so far as women voters are concerned. In Douglas the number of voters added to the list under the new Act is 374, and of this number 132 are women. There was not a single claim for a lodger vote. For the sheading of Middle, comprising three parishes in the vicinity of Douglas, the numbers of new voters are as follow :—Conchan parish, 18 females and 24 males ; Braddaw, 16 females and 28 males ; Santon, 10 females and 15 males. In Castletown the electoral roll has been increased by 155, of whom 102 are males and 53 females. In the adjacent sheading of Rushard no fewer than 325 new voters are added, almost doubling the number of voters under the 1866 Act. Of these, 232 are men and 93 women. In the town of Ramsay 128 males and 53 females are added, and in the sheading adjacent thereto, that of Ayre, there are 242 new voters—96 are females and 146 males. In Garf sheading there are 198 new voters. Of these 77 are females and 121 males. There only remains the town of Peel, in which the number of male owners will not exceed the number in Castletown. So far, therefore, the total number of female voters added to the list for all the sheadings and all the towns of the Island except Peel amounts to 416. If the probable number at Peel is added to this, it will make a total of almost 466 for the Island. Great interest is taken in the woman's suffrage question by the various constituences, and at the general meetings of electors that have been held during the past fortnight, many of the electors have expressed themselves dissatisfied with the present members, owing to the House of Keys having given way to the Council upon the restriction of the female suffrage to owners alone, and there is no doubt that a further extension of the Act to female occupiers will be one of the first measures, along with the adoption of a Ballot Act, which will be brought before the new House.

#### RESPONSIBILITY OF WOMEN IN POLITICS.

A curious discussion took place in the House of Commons while the House was in Committee, on the Person and Property Protection (Irish Coercion) Bill. Mr. CORBETT wished to introduce an amendment, defining person to mean adult male person, the object of which was to provide against the arrest of women and young children under the bill. Mr. W. E. FOSTER could not make the exception, but assured the committee that there was no danger of the Act being put in force against women or young boys. Mr. A. M. SULLIVAN believed that under the Bill there would be laid before the Lord Lieutenant very strong cases indeed against women and children. The Chief Secretary would not admit women to the franchise, but he would open the door of

the Habeas Corpus suspension to them, because if they were exempted from the operation of the Bill, women would, he said, be put in the forefront of the battle. Mr. COMMINS observed that in England women were acquitted of charges of a most brutal kind, on the ground that they had acted under the coercion of their husbands; but in Ireland if a woman rushed to save her husband, or made any attempt to prevent the levelling of her house to the ground, it seemed that she was to have no privilege of acquittal on the ground that she acted under the coercion of her husband, but might be imprisoned for 18 months without trial.

The discussion lasted for an hour and a half, when Mr. GLADSTONE said a great deal of vehement and abusive language had been used, but no Act for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus had ever excluded women from its operation. It was the hope and wish of the Government that the law would not be put in force against any woman; but, unfortunately, there were even in the range of ordinary crime instances of atrocious crimes committed by women, and there was much more reason to fear, especially if they were excluded from the Bill, that they would become the tools of others, and be misled into committing offences against which the Bill was directed. The power, though not likely to be used, was one that it would be folly, and even guilt, for the Government to part with.

On a division being taken, the amendment was rejected by 230 to 49.

We have no disposition to sympathise with those Irish members who claimed that women should be deprived of the responsibility of their own acts, which would be to return to the customs of our Scandinavian ancestors, when every woman was supposed to act under the coercion of some man, and was therefore acquitted of participation in serious crimes. We should like even to see the remaining disability (exemplified a few years ago in the Torpey case) done away with. In mediæval and still more in modern life, women take an active part in all political agitations, and represent every phase of political opinion. Absolutist or Nihilist in Russia, Democrat or Republican in America, Bonapartist or

Legitimist in France, Conservative or Liberal in England. In Ireland, the Ladies' Land League shows by the activity of its operations that women participate in the views of the extreme party, as they did in "ninety-eight," and later still in "forty-eight"; and there are influential Irish women, as well as men, who are friends and supporters of the party of order. To deny to these ladies the right of forming independent opinions, and of being responsible for their acts, would have been to insult their intelligence, and to relegate them to the position of children. At the same time Mr. SULLIVAN was in the right when he pointed out the anomaly of refusing to women who have the same responsibilities in politics, and are liable to the same penalties as men, the same political privilege, *i.e.*, the franchise.

#### TAXES FOR BRIBERY COMMISSIONS.

On March 10th, Mr. REGINALD YORKE asked the Attorney-General whether it had occurred to him to consider the hardship that will be inflicted upon female householders in those boroughs where bribery commissions have been and are still sitting, by the levying of a rate to defray the expenses of such commissions; and, if so, whether he intended to take any steps with the view of exempting such persons from the pecuniary fine which will otherwise be imposed on them in consequence of the delinquencies of their male neighbours, who have abused the electoral privileges which they possess, but which are denied to women.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL agreed with Mr. Yorke that some hardship existed in the fact that innocent persons had to share with the delinquents the expense of bribery commissions, but it was a hardship not confined to women. A Bill had, however, been introduced with the object of casting the expense of inquiries into corrupt practices on those who committed them.

The Attorney-General in his answer entirely ignores the fact that though many men may have been innocent of taking bribes, who yet are obliged to pay the taxes for the bribery commissions, women are the *only householders and ratepayers* who in boroughs, are systematically deprived of the right of voting, though taxed for the evil voting of others.

### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY (SCOTLAND).

The Select Committee appointed to consider this subject met for the purpose of taking evidence, the Lord Advocate presiding. The first witness called was Mr. Balfour, Solicitor-General for Scotland, who, in answer to the Chairman, described the law of Scotland in regard to the rights of property of married women, and the interest of the wife in the husband's estate after the husband's death. He stated that contracts of marriage were much more common in Scotland than what were called marriage settlements in England, and descended into much humbler classes of society. The practice was common, not only amongst the middle classes, but amongst the classes below that rank, if they had any property. When the wife had settled property by ante-nuptial contract, the disposable and heritable property were mostly kept separate, and vested in trustees, and the most usual course was to make the income from both classes of estate payable to the wife on her own receipt, so that the husband had no right over the estate. A successive life interest was often given to the husband. Under the present law a wife's property was frequently seized by the husband's creditors, and carried off by the husband's relatives after the husband's death. The Lord Advocate: What would you suggest to remedy these hardships? The Solicitor-General: I would provide that the property of a married woman should be reserved for herself, subject to such conditions and safeguards as would prevent any injustice from creditors, and as would prevent vexatious questions arising on the death of one of the spouses, difficulties as to the identity of the wife's property arising out of the mingling of the wife's with the husband's funds. Under the present law the wife's property can be kept separate and distinct, so that under the terms of the marriage contract it cannot be touched by the husband's creditors; but if the price of the wife's heritage gets mingled with the husband's funds, it has been decided that it is attachable by the creditors. In reply to further questions, witness stated that in the event of Parliament giving the wife a more

solid right in her personal property there would be no inconvenience or injustice in dispensing with the husband's right of administration as to income, whether of heritable or movable estate; but it would be of advantage that the husband should have a right of administration over property. Ladies in many cases were not so well able to judge of the soundness of investments as their husbands. They were often tempted by high rates of interest, and if not protected, might lose what they possessed through injudicious speculation. This right of administration would prevent the wife giving away her property during her life, but it would not prevent her disposing of it by testament. The system of allowing a wife to uplift her income on her own receipt under marriage contracts was working well. By Mr. Anderson: In the case of a runaway match the wife's property would not be protected. Do you see some necessity for making the status of the law somewhat similar to ante-nuptial contracts? Yes. You think a change in the present law is desirable? I do; the only limitation I would put on it would be in the nature of a safeguard to avoid collusion for the purpose of defeating their creditors, and to avoid litigation between the spouses, or with the creditors, in the event of the death of either. This limitation should not limit the right or security, but the spouses from the misfortune of litigation or fraud.

#### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY (ENGLAND).

MR. HINDE PALMER'S Bill, stands now "for Committee" in the House for Wednesday the 16th, but we have no expectation that it will be reached that day under the existing pressure of public business. The Bill as it now stands after revision by the Select Committee is a splendid measure (we regret that want of space compels us to defer printing it till next month). It is a clear proof of the immense advance in opinion that the Select Committee was *absolutely unanimous* on all points save one—that of a wife's right to contract herself into service—on which a division was taken, when it was passed by seven to five.

Our friends are most earnestly entreated to help the

Bill, all they can, by contributing to the funds of the Society when possible (Mrs. Jacob Bright, Alderley Edge, Cheshire, is Treasurer), and in all cases petitioning in support of it, and writing to their Members about it.

A LECTURE on the law of England with regard to the Property and Status of Married Women was given by Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy to the London Dialectical Society on March 2nd.

TELEGRAPH CLERKS AND THEIR GRIEVANCES.—The female supervisors and clerks of the Central Telegraph Office, London, have petitioned the Postmaster-General on the subject of the grievances under which they are at present suffering, submitting—"That they are entitled to be placed in as good a position as that of the female clerks of the Telegraph Message Branch and the Post Office Savings Bank, as regards salary, holidays, and all other privileges; that such revision be retrospective; that overtime be paid for without deduction for holidays, or partial holidays, and that Christmas Day and Good Friday continue to be paid for as overtime; and, further, that when clerks perform duty on any of the Bank holidays, or on the Queen's birthday, they be allowed a full day's leave in lieu thereof, that when clerks are employed on supervising duties, they may receive duty pay during the period of such employment." The petition bore 470 signatures.

MEETINGS were held of the Manchester Central Telegraph Office female staff to consider what steps should be taken in the general agitation which is now taking place. It was decided that the Postmaster General should be petitioned, and a statement of their grievances laid before him. A deputation waited upon the Postmaster on February 25th, in order to submit the petition and obtain his views thereon. The interview lasted two hours and a quarter, and is stated to have terminated on the whole satisfactorily. The petition is founded upon an entirely independent basis. They asked that classification should be entirely abolished; that the salary should commence at 12s. per week, rising annually by 2s. to 28s., and that the scale of pay then

be from £80 per annum, rising by triennial increments of £10 to £130, and that this scheme be retrospective to 1880. The memorial also asked for payment for overtime, additional days of leave of absence, &c. It was signed by 129, and 136 on the staff.

#### COUNTER SEATS FOR SHOPWOMEN.

The following appeared in the *Daily News* :—

SIR,—As the difficult question of obtaining seats of some sort for the many thousands of women employed behind counters and refreshment bars has been already much discussed in the Press, it is hoped you will publish this appeal for help in what, after much consideration, seems to us the best plan of dealing with the subject. We do not wish to resort to dealing exclusively with those who provide seats, as we feel sure that a large number of shopkeepers only require to have the subject brought forcibly before them to grant our request. We also think it is a question on which public opinion ought to have much more effect than legislation. The plan of having one large petition addressed to the shopkeepers of London generally has failed; we are, therefore, organising a scheme of petitions to individual shops, signed by as many customers of that particular shop as can be collected in a reasonable time. Each petition is placed in the hands of one person who is to be responsible for the facts concerning the shop addressed, and who will present to the owners of that shop the petition so signed by their own customers. Of course all the workers send each other any names they may have come across. If this system is to be successful it must be extended all over London, and we therefore appeal to any ladies willing to help either by giving their signatures or by starting new petitions, to write either to Mrs. Ashton Dilke, 1, Hyde Park Gate South; or Miss Bryce, 7, Norfolk Square; or Mrs. S. Batson, 49, Upper Gloucester Place. The ladies' work lies especially among the drapers and similar establishments. The very big firms do not as a rule employ women behind counters, and in the show-rooms there is always a place to sit down if leave be given; but in the shops where cheapness is the main object, hundreds of women stand from eleven to thirteen hours a day, to the certain injury of their health. If Mr. Whiteley can have seats others can do likewise. Gentlemen would greatly forward the movement by doing the same with regard to the bars and refreshment-rooms they habitually patronise. Apologising for the length of my letter,

I remain, yours obediently,

A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SHOP ASSISTANTS' SOCIETY.

51, Strand.

We have repeatedly expressed our conviction that private effort alone, and not legislation, is the real way to meet all the difficulties affecting the employment of women. Legislation is inelastic in its effects, and ends by restricting and hampering the workers. An associa-

tion of ladies, representing public opinion in that direction where tradesmen are most sensitive, the direction of purchasers, can effect almost what reforms they will, and the present movement, as well as that for early closing, will not deprive a single shop-girl of her situation, or lower her wages, as would infallibly sooner or later be the case, if the law interfered to place difficulties in the way of her employment which did not exist for men.

COLUMBIA MARKET, Bethnal Green, has been placed at the disposal of some Liverpool tobacco firms, the object being to afford employment for female labour on a large scale, in the East end of London. The work will be carried on by a Limited Company, and all the shares have been already taken up by the members of the respective firms interested in the experiment. The Market which is a spacious and substantial structure, is now undergoing the necessary adaptation to its new purposes, and is being fitted up with the machinery and appliances required for cigar making and tobacco manufacture. In the higher departments of the business, employment will be afforded for the redundant female population of the district, and it is this fact which has mainly induced the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, the owner of the Market, to consent to its conversion into a factory.

KNITTING.—A lady in the South of Ireland has during the last year exerted herself to obtain employment for a number of women and girls in knitting. She has now about 70 knitters engaged who have improved in their work in a most satisfactory manner. She is most anxious to render this employment permanent, and would be glad to receive orders from schools, institutions, &c., &c. Her address is:—Miss Frances Fitzgerald, Glanleam, Valencia Island.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

SWIMMING.—The Duke of Edinburgh gave away the prizes on February 22nd, to the boys and girls who were the successful competitors in the London Schools Swimming Club. The Duke paid a deserved tribute to the memory of the late Miss Chessar who had been one of the first persons to take up this subject.



PRINCESS LOUISE has consented to become the patroness of Miss Rye's emigration home for little girls at Peckham Rye.

VIVISECTION.—Miss Frances Power Cobbe gave a lecture on Vivisection, in Mrs. Pirkis's drawing room, Penlee, Richmond, on February 24th. She sketched the history of anatomical studies and physiological experiments.

SANITARY ASSOCIATION.—The lectures to the Ladies' Sanitary Association in London are proving a great success, and about a hundred ladies have intimated their intention of competing for the prizes offered.

PAINTINGS ON CHINA AT EXETER.—Messrs. Worth & Co., Cathedral Close, Exeter, have just opened their First Annual Exhibition of Paintings on China and Terra Cotta, by Artists and Amateurs. Altogether 303 works have been sent in for exhibition by lady artists of Exeter and the district around, as well as from London, and elsewhere. Miss Coleman, of London, has taken the first prize; and the works of Mrs. B. C. Harbutt (of Bath), Miss Cosserat (Isle of Wight), Miss J. B. Folkard (London), Miss Rosa Keen (London), and Miss C. E. Budd are very highly spoken of.

BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the British Women's Temperance Association (Newcastle branch) was held, on February 8th, in the Church Institute, Percy street, Newcastle, Mr. Councillor Scholefield in the chair. There was a fair attendance. The report for last year stated that the work of the Society during the year had been satisfactory, and the statement of accounts showed a balance in favour of the Association. The officers for the ensuing year were elected, and Mrs. Lucas, of Sunderland, delivered a long and interesting address on Temperance principles, which was greatly appreciated. The usual votes of thanks brought the proceedings to a close.—*Daily Express*.

THE MINERS' STRIKES.—A novel and interesting demonstration in connection with the Miners' Strike took place on February 12th, on the market ground, Pendlebury, when 2,000 women assembled. Eight colliers' wives ascended a cart, which was improvised as a plat-

form, and addressed the crowd. A Mrs. Clayton presided, and advised them to stand firmly by their husbands during the struggle. Mrs. Broadbent said they should encourage and support their husbands whilst there was a drop of blood in their bodies. A young woman with a baby in her arms asserted that she was prepared to starve before her husband should start work without increased pay. Several other women delivered speeches. The meeting was most enthusiastic. The women subsequently formed in procession, and marched past the masters' residences, singing "Britons never shall be slaves." The military and police were in the district, but their services were not required.

APPLICATION FOR RELIEF.—A respectable-looking woman, named Martha Bonnar, applied to their Worships for some money to pay her passage to Whitehaven. She stated that she had been in a good situation in that town, but had been beguiled out of it by a faithless husband, who had written letters to her stating that he was in a good position in Lisburn. However, when she came over, she found that he was in poverty. Captain Plunkett said that he could not separate husband and wife, and refused the application.—*Northern Whig*, Belfast.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

- "His Little Mother," by Mrs. Craik.—*Hurst & Blackett.*
- "Beside the River," by Mrs. Macquoid.—*Hurst & Blackett.*
- "Unto the Third and Fourth Generation," by Mrs. A. Bright.—*Tinsley.*
- "A Fair Barbarian," by Mrs. J. Burnett.
- "Aunt Hepsy's Foundling," by Mrs. L. Adams.—*Chapman & Hall.*
- "A Village Commune," by Ouida.—*Chatto & Windus.*
- "Lares and Penates," by Mrs. Caddy.—*Chatto & Windus.*
- "The Brides of Ardmore," by Agnes Smith.—*Elliot Stock.*
- "A Story of Autumn," by Mrs. C. Carr.—*Remington.*
- "Sybarite and Spartan," by Mrs. L. Nunn.—*Remington.*
- "Herbert Manners," by Florence Montgomery.—*Bentley.*
- "A Pilgrimage to Nejd," by Lady Anne Blunt.—*Murray.*
- "The Wards of Plotinus," by Mrs. John Hunt.—*Strahan.*
- "Children at Jerusalem," by Mrs. Holman Hunt.—*Ward, Lock, & Co.*
- "Through Cities and Prairie," by Lady Hardy.—*Chapman & Hall.*

"Missing," by Mary Cecil Hay.—*Hurst & Blackett.*

"History of the Zulu War," by Frances Colenso.—*Chapman & Hall.*

## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

MADAM.—My attention has been drawn to a letter headed "Medical Women" in *The Review* for February. In it "Clericus" makes a statement with regard to the authorities of the London School of Medicine for Women, which he would find difficult to substantiate. Of the two medical, but not registered ladies, whose names he gives, one has for years been a member of the Governing Body of the School, and the other, has quite recently, availed herself of the opportunities for Hospital attendance which the School authorities have placed at her disposal.

The London School of Medicine for Women was founded expressly to enable women to become Registered Medical Practitioners—i.e., to comply with the Acts of Parliament regulating the Medical profession. A registered practitioner is one who has not only qualified him or herself by a complete course of Medical study, but who has also passed the examinations of one of the Medical Corporations enumerated in the schedule attached to the Act of Parliament. None but registered practitioners have the right to sign any certificate required by the State, such as a vaccination or death certificate, or to claim fees in a court of law. The London School of Medicine for Women being a recognised school, can place none but Registered Medical Practitioners on its teaching staff, and as the list in the *Review* was of "registered" medical women it would have been incorrect to have included any but those whose names are on the Register of the General Medical Council of Great Britain and Ireland. All women who have complied with the necessary conditions, can, if they will, become registered, and therefore, Registration is no longer "a weapon of exclusion" such as it was before the foundation of the London School of Medicine for Women, and its recognition by the Kings' and Queens' College of Physicians in Ireland, and the University of London.

Lewes.

I am, Madam, yours truly,  
ISABEL THORNE.

## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

**FRENCH LADIES AND THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.**—The *Droit des Femmes* records the curious fact that at Thorey, in the Department of Meurthe et Moselle, five votes each were given to three ladies at the last Municipal elections. The ladies have responded to this mark of confidence by a letter of thanks which appeared in the *Progrès de l'Est*.—"Gentlemen Electors: We are grateful for your delicate attention, you have given us votes which we did not solicit. If we had obtained a majority, and the law had permitted us to sit among your elected, we declare to you that we would never have signed any document without having read and discussed it, and being certain of a happy result for the Commune; that we would have attentively superintended the finances, that we would have asked for an account of the additional centimes, and other extra taxes, that our husbands have paid since some years; that we would have demanded the utilization of the money accorded more than three years ago by the State and the Department, for the establishment of a school-house so urgently demanded; that we would protest against the accumulation of certain municipal functions, and that we would elect a delegate to the Senate who should not be an enemy to the Republican Government. Again, we thank you, gentlemen, for giving us the opportunity of placing our programme before your eyes, and of meeting you again three years hence.—Signed: The Ladies of Thorey who obtained the votes at the Elections of the 7th of January."

THE Committee of the British Charitable Fund in Paris have issued an appeal to English benevolence, in the course of which they give this warning, which can never be too often repeated: "English girls come to Paris under the impression that they will at once obtain situations as nursery governesses or maids, and after a period, during which they suffer all but starvation, and are exposed to dangers on which it is unnecessary to dwell, they have at last to apply to the Charitable Fund for immediate succour, and for aid to return to their homes. The Committee regret to add that applications are not unfrequently made by English women, married in England to Frenchmen, who, on coming to France, have found that, owing to non-compliance with the requirements of the French marriage laws, their union is here held to be invalid. On this matter clear information cannot be too widely diffused. When heartlessly deserted, these unfortunate women have no legal remedy whatever, and are thrown upon the British Charitable Fund for support and assistance."

THE banquet given by the staff of the *Nouvelle Revue*, at the Continental Hotel, to Madame Adam, was gay, brilliant, and in every way a remarkable Parisian event. Madame Adam sat between M. de Girardin and General Pittié. Of the 102 members of her staff 84 were present. At dessert, M. de Lesseps proposed the health of Madame Adam, and prosperity to her review, for which he wrote

the article that was first set up in type. M. Massaras, who goes in the office of this periodical by the name of "The Colonel," followed with an eulogium of Madame Adam, whom he designated as "Notre Générale." He lauded her for her intrepidity, dash, and quick, true judgment. M. Paul Deroulide read a sonnet he had indited in her honour. M. Marc Monnier, Rector of the Geneva University, was not less gallant, or less happily inspired. After M.M. Jean Micard, Jules Troubat, and Jessier had lauded Madame Adam, she rose to thank them in a speech of some length. On the death of the late Edmond Adam she did not know what to do with her surplus energy. She tried various occupations, and at last the idea struck her that she had acted on. Her friends tried to dissuade her. They advised her to write books, and not to attempt competing with the *Revue des Deux Mondes*; but she nevertheless perceived that the action of books was intermittent, and that journals fell too readily into angry polemics. Madame Adam congratulated her staff on having given her review a character of its own, and rendered it the chief organ of Democracy a year after its foundation.—*Daily News*, Feb. 22.

COURT OF CASSATION.—The Supreme Court has given the following decision in a question of commerce upon married women :—"The wife cannot be considered responsible as a person of business for her husband's debts, if she does not carry on a separate business; and to make such a responsibility fall upon her, it must be declared that she has personally rendered herself responsible with her husband's authorisation. It is not sufficient to declare that she has associated herself with his business.

A MARRIED WOMAN'S RIGHT TO PUBLISH. — A conference of lawyers met on the 21st of February, under the presidency of M. Henri Barboux. The question discussed was :—"Can a court of justice, in case of the refusal of the husband, authorise a woman to publish a literary work, or represent a dramatic piece. The conference decided in the affirmative.—*Droit des Femmes*.

Two new papers devoted to women's questions have lately appeared. One is the *Citoyenne*, edited by Mlle. Hubertine Andert, which is particularly devoted to the political rights of women. The other is *La Tribune des Femmes*, published by Mlle. Cheminat, 22, Rue Richelieu. The woman's cause is here cleverly advocated by women who have worked earnestly in the cause. The first leading article is called "Our Rights."

THE *Journal des Postes et Télégraphes* announces that twenty more women have been appointed to the receipt office and the Dead Letter Office. They are installed in Rue Coq-Heron.

*Galignani* says: "All the clerks of the telegraphic office at the Place de la Bourse have been replaced by women. Only experienced clerks well acquainted with the night and day press service have been maintained in that office."

THE Commission named to report on M. Camille See's Bill for turning a wing of the Compiègne Palace into a normal school for female teachers in girls' high schools, is favourable to the measure.

STUDY OF ART IN FRANCE.—2,220 young girls are pursuing their studies of drawing and painting in the Municipal and the State

Schools; 1,950 are receiving music lessons in the Conservatories and other musical schools.

MME. JULES HEREAU, widow of the painter, has been appointed Inspectress of the Design Schools of the City of Paris. The choice is excellent, for she is herself a painter of great merit.

#### BELGIUM.

M. PIRMEZ, deputy to the House of Representatives in Belgium, on the 17th of February, made a speech in favour of altering the Code to ameliorate the position of women. He claimed greater equality in marriage; that a wife should have the power to sell her property or furniture; that she should have the power to refuse to accompany her husband. "An intelligent woman," he said, "is certainly the superior of an imbecile husband, and intelligence is as superior to force as mind is to matter; and the Civil Code offends our morality by always giving the husband superiority over his wife. I doubt if in every situation the man's intelligence is superior. It is so undoubtedly in the upper classes, as woman has been set aside from all serious concerns, and encouraged to frivolity. But among the *bourgeoisie*, and in commerce, woman has the same share in the business as man, and directs it with greater skill, and among the working classes she is generally the superior; generally she knows business better than the husband. Why, then, should marriage be made a humiliation for women? Why should she not keep the control of her fortune? Why should she require the permission of her husband to sue, even if it be against himself? Why should she be excluded from any share in authorising the marriage of her children? Why may she not be a guardian, except of her own children?" M. Pirmez claimed, in conclusion, a different law of inheritance for women, the right of unmarried mothers to point out the father of their children, and a greater equality before the law with respect to fidelity to the marriage vow. The whole speech is remarkable as a proof how public opinion is progressing with regard to women.—*Droit des Femmes.*

#### ITALY.

The course of lectures at the Higher Female School (*Scuola Superiore Femminile*) at Rome have commenced. This institution is patronised by Queen Margherita. The lectures are given by the University Professors; and Italian statesmen and philosophers, such as Signori Minghetti and Mamiani, also give a lecture every season. Signor Bruniatti will instruct Italian ladies upon constitutional government, and his lecture on "Queen Victoria, a Constitutional Sovereign," is looked forward to with great interest.

#### RUSSIA.

The *Medical Journal* says that the St. Petersburg School of Medicine was opened to women in 1872. During eight years 796 students have matriculated; 72 per cent. were under 22 years old; 24 per cent. between 22 and 30 years, and 3 per cent. above 30. According to social conditions they were classified; single, 89.4 per cent;

married, 9 per cent.; widows, 1.6 per cent. As the course of studies occupies five years, only the first three classes had graduates; their number is 111, corresponding to 266 matriculates. During 1879, 453 students pursued the study of medicine; and as 111 graduated and 30 died, 202, or 25 per cent., abandoned their studies. This large percentage is due to the fact that the majority of students are obliged while studying to earn their living by giving lessons, or in other ways, which necessarily proves too much for their strength.

THE COUNTESS MILUTIN, who went to the seat of the Turcoman war some months ago, to serve as Sister of Mercy at the military hospital at Bami, is said to be seriously ill with fever.

A RUSSIAN paper announces the approaching marriage of Mdle. Kachevaroff, M.D., with Prince J—, an officer of the Imperial Guard. After the celebration of the marriage the young couple will establish themselves at Kharkoff, where the future princess intends to practise. Her speciality will be the diseases of women.

#### AMERICA.

In all directions there has been decided growth during the past year. Oregon and Wisconsin have an amendment pending. Iowa, in one branch of her legislature, passed an amendment which was lost in the other branch. Vermont, with only four votes in the House and one in the Senate against the measure, adopted School Suffrage. New York has established School Suffrage. At this moment, Maine, Rhode Island, Indiana and California have this question in their respective legislatures. Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Missouri will petition for Presidential Suffrage this winter.

Governor Long of Massachusetts, Governor Cornell of New York, Governor Littlefield of Rhode Island, Governor Porter of Indiana, and Governor Perkins of California have each spoken for some measure of political rights for women—Governor Long recommending full Suffrage. These indications are full of hope.

MISS KETTRELL, a new clerk in the Nevada Legislature, had to undergo a remarkable ordeal for a woman, in being sworn in. Judge Hawley adjured Miss Kettrell to support the Constitution and the laws, not to bear arms against her country, and to pay no attention to the laws of the Legislatures of other States when they happened to conflict with those of her State. He assured her that she was not eligible as a servant of the State if she had, since the adoption of the constitution of Nevada, fought a duel, acted as second at a duel, or carried a challenge to fight a duel. The young woman was able to set Judge Hawley's mind completely at rest.

MISS LEONA R. TAYLOR, the only lady member of the graduating class of the law department at Ann Arbor, Michigan, University, has just been highly complimented for her part in the "Moot Court" case lately held at that University. The question was one of inter-State jurisdiction. Judge Campbell presided and gave the decision. Mr. A. L. Roadarmour appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. J. W. Lounsberry and Miss Taylor for the defence. The judge began the decision by complimenting her very highly, saying that he had "rarely, if ever, heard a case handled with more ability." Judge

Campbell has been on the bench of the Supreme Court of Michigan for the past twenty years.

#### SOUTH AFRICA.

THE WAR IN THE TRANSVAAL.—The *Daily News* says that the insufficiency of nurses at the front will be met, partly by sending out some trained "sisters" from the home hospitals, and partly, it is hoped, by the benevolent ladies of the colony, under the direction of some such experienced superintendent as Mrs. Deeble, of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley—the only one of her sex besides the Queen who appears in the official list as an officer of the army.

The hospital at Newcastle is in excellent order, everything being done for the sick and wounded. The magistrate's wife, with many other ladies in the neighbourhood, are sending such comforts as the military doctors approve. Money and comforts are also sent from other parts of the colony. Lady Colley instituted a society to supply linen, and everything the doctors could suggest. The wife of Colonel Hawthorne (R.E.) has gone, with two other experienced nurses, to Newcastle, to act under the principal medical officer.

#### AUSTRALIA.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The *Sydney Morning Herald* has lately contained a series of good articles upon the higher education of women.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—A little book called "The Laws we live under" has been published under the direction of the Minister of the Interior, expressly to teach the youth of the colony the nature of the government under which they live, the principal laws that affect a citizen, and the elementary truths of political economy. It is noticeable that a lady—Miss Spence—has been selected to write the book. It is complimentary to Miss Spence that she should have been selected to compile so useful a school-book, and she has performed her task in a manner which entitles her to high commendation. She has evidently aimed at great simplicity in style, and appears to have worked on the model of some of the popular primers lately published in England. She has taken every opportunity of giving a local colouring to her treatise, and has drawn several illustrations from the history of the colony. As one who has witnessed its growth almost from its earliest days, she has turned to account her opportunities of observation on the theory and practice of colonization, and her youthful readers will find these local and historical allusions interest them in the broad questions they are meant to illustrate.

#### INDIA.

A Madras contemporary says:—"We learn from Hyderabad that Miss White, who has taken service as medical attendant in the Nizam's family, has obtained a well-salaried appointment. Some of the ladies of Sir Salar Jung's family have, we hear, expressed their willingness to learn medicine under Miss White."

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## PARAGRAPHS.

## FASHION BOOKS.

A circular from a London firm which supplies fashion books, on being analysed presented the following result:—

<i>Publications on Fashion.</i>						
	Weekly.	Monthly.	Fornightly.			
France ... ..	13	17	19	.....		49
Germany ... ..	4	2	1	.....		7
Italy ... ..	10	4	4	.....		18
England ... ..	1	10	—	.....		11
Spain ... ..	2	—	1	.....		3
America ... ..	2	2	—	.....		4
Totals ... ..	32	35	25	.....		92

So much for the literature appealing to the frivolous side of women's lives.

**HARSHNESS OF THE LAW TOWARDS WOMEN.**—The slowness with which Englishmen have recognised, or rather have not recognised, the *Academy* says, the equality of women with men in the eye of the law, is well illustrated by an Act of James I., reign 21 Jac., c. 6., A.D. 1623-24. Before that date, when any woman committed a small felony, for which a man who could read a verse of the Bible got off scot free, she was hanged. But in 1623 it struck the Parliament that this contrast of freedom for the man, and death for the woman for the same offence was too strong, and so they decided not to hang women for their first offence of this kind, but only for their second. They accordingly passed the Act above-named, which provides that women convicted of "such an offence as in the like case, a man might have his Clergie (and get off scot free), shall for the first offence be branded and marked in the hand upon the brawne of the left thumbe with a hot burning iron, having a Roman I upon the same iron; the said marke to be made by the jaylor openlie in the court before the judge, and also to be further punished by imprisonment, whipping, stocking (setting in the stocks), or sending to the House of Correcsion, in such sort, and for so long time (not exceeding the space of one whole yeare) as the judge or justices (trying the case) shall in their discrecion thinke meete." \* \* \* \*

THE  
ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.

(NEW SERIES.)

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No. XCVI.—APRIL 15TH, 1881.

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ART. I.—REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON THE MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY  
(SCOTLAND) BILL.

SINCE the last issue of the ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW, the Select Committee on the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Bill have reported to the House the evidence which they have taken thereupon, and the Bill itself, of which, as amended by the Select Committee, we subjoin a copy, has passed through Committee on April 8th, and now stands "for consideration as amended" for Monday, April 25th.

The Bill differs materially from the Married Women's Property Bill, applying to England and Ireland, and which, at present, stands "committed" for the 26th inst.

According to the present law of Scotland, the general effect of marriage upon the property of a woman where there is no marriage contract, is to transfer from the wife to the husband all the personal property which either belongs to the wife at the date of her marriage, or which she acquires afterwards.

As regards her real estate, the corpus or property of that remains with the wife, but the rents accruing from it during the marriage becomes the property of the husband, and are paid to him upon his own receipt, exactly as if they were the rents of his own estate. Further than this, the husband acquires by marriage another legal right, technically known as the right of

administration, which makes the husband's consent indispensable to any dealing by the wife with property, the actual body of which did not pass to him in virtue of the marriage. The husband's consent, for example, would be essential to any conveyance or mortgage of the wife's real property, and to any disposition or investment of any personal property, the principal of which had been protected against him by marriage contract.

The Bill now before Parliament proposes so to change the law, that the right to her own property shall remain with the wife, in spite of her marriage, and shall not pass to her husband. She will retain, as her own, all personal property belonging to her at the time of her marriage, or coming to her during the marriage, and she, and not her husband, will henceforth be entitled to receive the rents and produce of her real estate.

But the Bill proposes to retain the husband's right of administration, so far as to prevent the wife from dealing independently, during her husband's lifetime, with any portion of her estate, except the annual income. She will still be unable to make or change an investment, to buy or sell a bit of land or a cottage, or to anticipate her income, however great the emergency, without her husband's consent. Apparently, also, she will not be able, without such consent, to invest even savings out of income, and it is important to ascertain how far the new measure will operate as a Repeal of the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act, 1877, which protects a married woman in her right to her own earnings, and to all investments of such earnings.

Perhaps Scotch lawyers will be able to tell us whether, should the present Bill become law, a woman who marries afterwards will enjoy the right, conferred by the Act of 1877, to invest her earnings as she pleases, or will be obliged, under the new measure, to ask her husband's consent for their investment.

The reason for this restriction upon a woman's rights of property appears to be the *assumption* (see evidence of the Solicitor-General for Scotland, page 6, Report from the Select Committee on Married Women's Property [Scotland] Bill), that women are more addicted

to reckless speculations than men, and the unwillingness (see evidence of Lord Fraser, page 21) to deprive a wife "of the assistance and advice of the man who is most interested in her welfare."

To the latter, we reply, that to restore to the woman the right of dealing freely with her own, will not and cannot deprive her of any useful advice and assistance.

If the husband and wife are living on good terms, such advice and assistance will be freely given and taken; and if they are not on good terms, the husband ought not to be allowed this means of coercing and constraining a wife. Lord Fraser, however, sees no immorality in this degrading subjection of one human being to another, for he frankly opposes any restriction of the prerogative of the husband, and naively says (page 26 of evidence) why a wife "should be allowed to have money in her pocket, to deal with as she thinks fit, I cannot understand."

We believe the whole notion as to women's tendencies to hazardous speculation to be one of the many fallacious theories which men form about women, and to be wholly contradicted by experience. But even were it otherwise, we should hold that the best, indeed, the only remedy for such folly, was the education and experience of freedom, and the habit of personal responsibility.

We distinctly object to any shifting of the moral obligations of women upon the shoulders of men, and we further object to any "protection," which is but another name for disguised oppression. On these and many other grounds, we shall be seriously disappointed should the Bill pass into Law with these limitations.

Another important provision of the Bill is contained in section 7,—under which a wife is made equally liable with her husband,—for the domestic expenditure, and for the maintenance of the spouses and family, and may be sued, therefore, jointly with her husband, or severally.

The Solicitor-General (see p. 11 of Report) objected to this absolute equality of liability on the part of a wife, that the husband is the primary debtor, and should be first liable to discharge the burdens of the househo

Lord Fraser, however, (see page 21) says—"Take the case that the husband has £1,000 a year, and the wife a separate estate to the extent of £500, in what proportion shall she contribute to the common expenses, shall it be in the proportion of £1,000 to £500, or shall it be equal? I see no means of working this law out, except by saying, that as this is a common liability, the power of paying it is not to be looked to at all, but there shall be equal liability, she shall pay a half—and if the wife's £500 is exhausted before the husband's £1,000, that cannot be helped."

The proposal of the Bill goes even further than this, giving to the creditor, even where the order was actually given by the husband, and for services to be rendered to himself, the option of recovering from either husband or wife, or both. As the law at present stands, in other respects, this provision practically restores to any husband who chooses so to apply it, that control over the income of his wife's property which the other clauses of the Bill profess to take away. For it should be remembered that the legal right of determining the rate of domestic expenditure belongs to the husband alone, that he has the sole guardianship and control of the children, and a legal authority over the wife's person—to which she has no equivalent. It ought not to be forgotten, moreover, that the wife gives, in the service of the husband and family, labour and time which—in the case of anyone but a wife—would have to be paid for. This is too much forgotten by those persons (see page 24) who talk of the husband as "the man who has created the family, and has toiled and worked for it." A woman with a family has, from the very necessity of the case, to "toil and work" for that family harder than a man, under any circumstances, is called upon to do. We confess that this habitual forgetfulness of the economic and social value of the domestic services of the wife and mother, simply because they are not appraised in money value, and have not to be paid for, has, to our mind, a very sordid aspect.

If the proposal of section 7 of the Bill be adopted, it ought logically to be followed by legislation which will free the wife from every shred of subjection to her

husband, and which will equalize the rights of the parents with regard to the children, as well as of duties towards them.

It ought, however, to be mentioned here for the information of English readers, that the claim of wife and children in Scotland to maintenance is a much more tangible one than in England, and much more easily enforced, whilst the same law which gives to a husband the property of his wife, secures to the widow an inheritance in her deceased husband's estate of one-third, if there be children, and one-half if there be no children; and to the children, one-third if there be a widow, and one-half if there be no widow.

The Bill now before Parliament proposes to alter the law of succession only to the extent of giving to a widower the same interest in the personal estate of his deceased wife, which is now taken by a widow in her husband's personal estate.

Time and space both fail for further comments on the Bill, and on the very suggestive evidence, but we strongly advise our readers to purchase and study for themselves the Report of the Select Committee, which may be obtained for 9d., from Messrs. Hansard, 13, Great Queen Street, London, W.C. They will find much matter for consideration in the differences between the law of England and Scotland as it affects the position of married women, and will probably find, in Scotland, no possible solution of the problems presented, save in the full recognition of the individuality of personal rights and interests, and the equality of parental rights and obligations.

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## ART. II.—GALLERY OF LADY ARTISTS,

48, GREAT MARLBOROUGH STREET.

THIS exhibition contains a considerable number of pleasing pictures. Many of the water colour landscapes

seem to us very good indeed, and, as a general rule, we should say that the water colours are better than the oils.

The following are the pictures which struck us most:—"Twilight," No. 11, by Ada Bell; "The Eschina Thal," No. 12, by Lady Worsley, a spirited sketch of fir trees and snowy mountains, very well executed; "Herring Smacks and Skiffs," No. 16, by M. J. Kempson, very clever, as is also the companion picture No. 26; "The Coupée" (Sark), No. 22, by L. Hawkins; "Albenga on the Riviera," No. 23, by P. Harding; "The Temple of Vesta," No. 38, by E. Petrie, are all deserving of attention; "Orange Tree near Algiers," No. 45, by Madame Bodichon, should not be overlooked. "Past and Present," No. 64, by Margaret Raynor, is the view of a fine arch among the ruins of Furness Abbey, beneath which children are picking blackberries; "A Summer Afternoon," No. 81, by Jessie Friar; the shadows are long, the sunshine is bright, and some children in the foreground are feeding poultry. It is a thoroughly natural scene, and will bring back to town residents the recollection of pleasant country walks. "Iris," No. 94, by Miss M. Thompson, is very well done. "The Fore Gate" (Chester), No. 96, by L. Rayner, is an elaborate and highly finished picture of a Market Place, a crowd, and some curious old buildings, very well executed. "A Quiet Pool," No. 97, by G. M. Edwards, is a charming picture of nature undisturbed by man, the wild ducks are capitally drawn; "Epping Forest," by the same artist, is another delightfully wild scene. "Palm Trees," by Mrs. Marrable, No. 190, is very pretty. "A Cardinal," No. 202, by G. E. C. Smallwood, is a remarkable picture. The difference is well depicted between the proud intellectual expression on the countenance of the old Ecclesiastic and the humble but kindly look on the face of his old fashioned serving man, who is evidently devoted to his master, and is listening with respect to his orders. If we are not mistaken, this artist will make her mark. "The Close of Day," "Warwick Castle," and the "Maritime Alps" are all pretty and bring the water colour exhibition in the large room to a conclusion.

Among the oil paintings, "Rome near the Ponte Molle," No. 246, struck us as being very good. "Still Life," No. 263, consists of the portraits of some pots, and pans, a tablecloth, and a bunch of keys. It is well painted, but dreadfully uninteresting. When we see pictures of such subjects we cannot help thinking that the artist does not know the use of pictures, which is, we take it, to bring before us something that has pleasant or elevating associations. Historical scenes, scenes from life, portraits, landscapes, animal pictures, flower pictures, all fulfil this purpose to a greater or less extent, but there can be no associations connected with pots, and pans, and keys. We hope that the artist, who certainly has skill, will turn her talents in some other direction. "Landscape," by F. Assenbaum, is a fine wild scene on a moor; "Grasses," No. 325, by Mrs. Lizzie Turner, is very graceful, a room decorated in this style would be charming; we suggest the idea to millionaires. "A Garden Party," No. 360, by Miss Aston, represents a company of cranes in a garden, the zoological, we fancy; it is funny and natural. "Family Jars" is a picture of half a dozen jam pots.

There are some pretty pictures among the water colours in the small room. "Feeding Time," No. 447, by Mrs. Paul Naftel, is a picture of a cottage, with geese and pigeons coming home to supper; the style is perhaps rather artificial, but the effect is pretty. "The Marina" (Naples), No. 478, by Miss Stigand, is good, and very like the real scene. "Landing Pilchards," by Grace Hastie, is very pretty; so is "Mimosas and Anemones," by Madame Hegg (No. 538), and "Azaleas," by Jessie Combs (No. 557). The screens ought not to be overlooked, as some nice pictures are to be found there. On table No. 1, there are two charming designs for fans, by Miss C. Isa James. We believe the pictures in this Gallery to be at present depreciated below their real worth, partly by the bad times, partly perhaps by the fact that they are generally painted by young women artists who have yet their fame to win. We should not be surprised if some years hence the purchasers of to-day were to find that their pictures had largely increased in value.

JESSIE BOUCHERETT.



## ART. III.—NOTHING FOR THE WOMEN.

ON March 29th, Exeter Hall was re-opened with a crowded and deeply sympathetic assemblage, having passed into the hands of the Young Men's Christian Association. This useful organization has spent about £50,000 on its new acquisition, the purchase money, £25,000, having been provided by five munificent donations of £5,000 each, and £23,000 being additionally spent on the fittings and alterations. Just congratulation was expressed by the speakers of the evening on the great impetus to home and foreign missionary work which would be given by the possession of this splendid building. During the day, however, a very suggestive little handbill had been liberally distributed, the upper half of which contained the reminder in black letters, "£50,000 spent for the welfare of young men in London;" while the other half, printed in red, bore the words, "Nothing for young women. Why?" This appeal was signed "John Shrimpton." The following day, Mr. Shrimpton sent a letter to the newspapers in which he pointed out to the earnest attention of the philanthropists of the United Kingdom the positive need for similar efforts on behalf of the young women of London. "Practically," he said, "no effort is being made to afford the thousands upon thousands (the "better half" of our population) an independent opportunity of association like our young men enjoy. Why? I know not. I do know that everything is done to draw them out of the paths of virtue. Three more theatres are about being built within five minutes' walk of Exeter Hall. Our streets are filled nightly with really respectable young women who will tell you that they have no such place to resort to. I appeal to you on behalf of the young women of London to put forward their claims."

There certainly is a very prevalent notion that women do not require amusement. Philanthropy is beginning to awaken to the perception that they require a due proportion of good shelter and clothing, and that their wages must in some way or other be raised till they

cover this necessary outlay; but beyond this philanthropy does not look. Women may work, eat, sew, and sleep, and go to church on Sundays, but they need not be provided with recreation or amusement. If a young woman who has been standing behind a counter, or sitting bent over her needle all day, has a decent lodging to go to, and enough food to eat, what more, philanthropy thinks, can she want? If she stays about in the streets chatting to friends, or if, for the sake of a little variety, she accompanies them to the music halls or cheap theatres, she encounters temptations, and even incurs some degree of risk. There is nothing provided for her in the way of innocent social amusement. "Let not my child be a girl, for very sad is the life of a woman," said the poor Indian squaw. She might have added, "and very dull."

Debating societies, athletic clubs, mechanics' institutions, chess clubs, and in the country cricket clubs, are all for men; or if there is now and then a ladies' night set apart by the more advanced workmen's literary associations, it is only an exceptional act of courtesy. In my own western district of London, I was asked to interest myself in a new working-class club with social evenings for talk and quiet games. "It was so necessary for them to have social recreation after a long day's work." I agreed, but presently found that the men's wives and daughters were left out of the scheme. "Did not they require social recreation too, after their long day's work?" I asked. "Possibly, but they must do their washing and clean up the house, and look after the little ones," and it never seemed to enter philanthropy's head that their day had been dull and unvaried, and required a bright evening quite as much as their husbands.

Nothing done for the girls! no pleasant reading parties, or musical evenings, or chess clubs, or discussion clubs. The Kyrle Society is doing something in this direction, the Somerville Club also, the Queen's Square and Brompton Colleges, and the Women's Protective and Provident League, but these are scattered and feeble efforts. Compare them with the

purchase of Exeter Hall for the Christian young men—where would the donors of £5,000 each be found, if the recipients of the charity were women? If a working girl has a taste for reading at home, and can get books, she may not feel dreary, but if she is of a social turn of mind, what a melancholy welcome there is in her solitary, poorly-furnished bedroom with one little candle and her lonely supper after her day of hard mental and bodily toil. She requires healthy, honest recreation quite as much as her brother does, to keep up the tone of her spirits during the next day's long hours of work. In small country towns, girls mostly live with their families, and if they are out at work all day, have a real home to go to afterwards, but in London and other large cities, an immense number of girls live in lodgings alone, and are urgently in need, as Mr. Shrimpton points out, that something should be done to provide them with good social amusements.

Nothing for the women! The same remark holds good in many other ways, as for instance in the department of Education. A few years ago, the grammar schools, public schools, and other endowments for the secondary education of boys possessed an income of £300,000 a year, while those for girls had an aggregate income only of £3,000. The Women's Colleges of Girton and Newnham have slowly and with much difficulty raised the sums necessary for their modest buildings; contrast them with the splendid edifices solely devised for the education of men. Societies for employing women, or protecting women, have all to struggle against deficiency in funds. The donations to the Women's Hospital, in the Marylebone Road, are like the widow's mite, as compared with the magnificent contributions made to institutions of which men have the benefit. The relative proportion of girls to boys in the London Certified Industrial Schools is 200 to 1300 boys. In one of our large seaports, Miss Hopkins reports, there were last year 2000 boys in careful industrial training, but not one girl, though the girls were going to ruin by scores.

This disparity between the help given to boys and that bestowed on girls who need it fully as much, if not

more, has existed for many years, and it does not decrease. Not only do men give more to men than to women, but women also give more, and many a bequest is made by these last to boys' industrial schools, homes, and brigades, while similar institutions for girls are neglected. It ought to be a serious consideration with philanthropists to try to restore the balance between institutions for the benefit of men and women.

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#### ART. IV.—THE LADIES' COLUMN.

THREE weeks ago a western paper was sent us, containing a most spirited report of a women's suffrage meeting in Merthyr Tydvil. A very large audience assembled, and it was presided over by Mr. D. Williams, the high constable. He began his remarks by saying that women had a right to manage their own property, and to be represented in the House of Commons, and to see that the laws were made as much in their favour as in the favour of their husbands. The next speaker, Mr. J. W. James, remarked that ladies had power to vote for local bodies, and paid rates equally with men, and as the law gave them power to vote in local matters on account of their paying local rates, it should also give them power to vote in Parliamentary matters so long as they paid Imperial taxation. The other speakers, ladies and gentlemen, adduced new facts and brought forward many additional reasons—legal, moral, and social—why the franchise should be given to women, and the proceedings closed with hearty applause, and by the meeting enthusiastically singing "God save the Queen."

This meeting, which was so entirely occupied with the present position and future duties of women, might, we should have thought, have taken its place under the title of the "Ladies' Column." Not at all; a little further on in the same newspaper appears the real "Ladies' Column," filled with what the editor, and

many others, supposes to be the master passion and exclusive interest of a woman's life—dress. The "Ladies' Column" in this paper occupies nearly as much space as the report of the meeting. It tells us that "bodices may be gathered or plaited;" "that bonnets fortunately continue to be quite small;" "that bright nasturtium colours are still to be adopted, and a very vivid shade of scarlet, partaking in some degree of pink." In place of discussions upon education, or wages and employment, which affect such countless thousands of girls, of the laws affecting married women's property or custody of children, it tells us only of "a lovely dress of old gold satin bordered with dark brown sable, the petticoat of cream coloured satin or silk, arranged in rows of close gathers separated by little cords." The "Ladies' Column" generally subjoins a little weak local gossip, the description of a fashionable wedding, a little Court news, one or two jokes, generally about matrimony, perhaps a few recipes, and some amateur poetry.

Is this the sort of thing which editors believe women care to read, or if it be so, are the matrimonial jokes and the weak gossip exclusively relished by one sex? Do they really think, as they say they do, that ladies care nothing about foreign wars or treaties, or Parliamentary discussions, or topics of education and art, or literary reviews? The "Ladies' Column" is a relic of past times, when women were hardly educated at all, and, moreover, when they had far more to do in their households than at present, as the food was all cooked at home, the children physicked, the dresses made for all the members of the family, and when, if a woman did exceptionally want news of the outside world, she must "ask her husband at home." A "Ladies' Column" has no meaning in it now: the whole of our newspapers are ladies' columns, except, perhaps, those portions which might more strictly be headed "Gentlemen's Columns."

We have sometimes wondered what the effect would be if editors adopted the suggestion of making a gentlemen's column. Would it run somewhat in this style:—

"The — handicap of £50 each on Tuesday. Betting is 2 to 1 against Mars, 7 to 1 against Omega, and 100 to 1 against Flying Squall \* \* \* Anaconda walked over the course, and Alarmist was scratched."

Or, "A battue took place on Monday at — Court. His Grace the Duke of — made the largest bag of the season."

Or, "H.R.H. the Prince of — gave a dinner on Wednesday at the — Club to decide on the qualifications of a new *chef de cuisine*. Each guest was to give his unbiassed opinions on the back of the *menu* card before him."

Or, "White ecru felt will be much worn as a luxurious shady *negligé* hat for garden wear for gentlemen, inexpensive, but of good style. \* \* Cravats will be worn in bright colours this season."

Absurd as such a column would appear to us, it is not more absurd than the assumption that women only care for the "trifles, light as air," which are served up to them instead of substantial fare. The newspapers should be, and to some extent are, the great teachers of the public. If they assume that women are necessarily frivolous, they foster, to some extent, the frivolity they assume. The time is coming when men and women must join hand in hand, heart in heart, in all the leading, managing, and educational work of the world, when the Roman's saying of "I am a man, and nothing human is alien to me," shall be true for men and women alike. When that time comes, the "Ladies Column" will be an extinct and a literary curiosity.

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## THE LAW COURTS.

### No. 1.

#### MONTHLY DIGEST OF DECISIONS ON POINTS OF LAW AFFECTING WOMEN.

The following decisions of especial interest to women have been recently reported.

The references to the legal publications in which the cases noted here, will be found fully reported:—App. Cas.—Law Reports, Appeal Cases. Ch. D.—Law Reports, Chancery Division. L.J. Chanc.—Law Journal Reports, Chancery. L.J.—Law Journal. L.J.Q.B. (C. P. or Ex.)—Law Journal Reports, Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer. L.T.—Law Times Newspaper. L.T.N.S.—Law Times Reports, New Series. N.C.—Law Journal, Notes of Cases. P.D.—Law Reports, Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Divisions. Q.B.D.—Law Reports, Queen's Bench Division. S.J.—Solicitor's Journal. W.N.—Weekly Notes. W.R.—Weekly Reporter.

## ADDENDA.

On page 117, line 14, after *trustee* add (*Kingsman v. Kingsman*, 62 B.D. 122; 50 L.J. Ch. 81; 44 L.T.N.S. 124; 29 W.R. 207).

*Bland v. Dawes*, *ante* p. 115. Reported also 43 L.T.N.S. 75; W.N. (1881) p. 7; 29 W.R. 416.

*Kane v. Kane*, *ante* p. 114. Reported also 43 L.T.N.S. 667; 16 Ch. D. 207.

MARRIED WOMAN—SEPARATE ESTATE—LIABILITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUPPORT OF GRANDCHILD.—By section 7 of 43 Eliz., c. 2, the father and grandfather, and the mother and grandmother . . . of every poor . . . person or other poor person not able to work, being of a sufficient ability shall, at their own charges, relieve and maintain every such poor person in that manner and according to that rate as by the justices of peace . . . shall be assessed.

By section 14 of the Married Women's Property Act, 1870 (33 and 34 Vict., c. 93), a married woman having separate property shall be subject to all such liability for the maintenance of her children as a widow is now by law subject to for the maintenance of her children: provided always that nothing in this Act shall relieve her husband from any liability at present imposed upon him by law to maintain her children.

A married woman who was possessed of separate property was summoned before the justices for refusing to contribute to the support of her grandchild, and an order was made directing her to contribute to its support, which it appeared she was perfectly able to do, independently of her husband. Upon appeal.

*Held*—that the justices were wrong—that “children” in section 14 of the Married Women's Property Act, 1870, does not include “grandchildren,” and that apart

from that there is no liability on the part of a married woman whose husband is alive to support her grand-child (*Coleman v. Overseers, of Birmingham*, 16 N.C., 35; W.N., 1881, p. 40).

HUSBAND AND WIFE—WIFE'S AUTHORITY TO PLEDGE HUSBAND'S CREDIT—NECESSARIES.—A married woman residing at Bradford, ordered certain articles of dress from the plaintiffs, a firm of drapers in London. Both she and her husband were servants in an hotel at Bradford, and the latter made her a regular allowance to supply herself and children with clothes, which allowance he had expressly forbidden her to exceed. An action was brought by the plaintiffs against her husband to recover the amount of the goods supplied to her.

At the trial it was admitted (1) that the prices of the goods were reasonable, (2) that they were necessities in the sense of being suitable to the wife's station in life, (3) that she and her husband were living together, and (4) that the plaintiffs when supplying the goods were not aware that her husband had forbidden her to pledge his credit. The jury having found that at the time when the goods were ordered, the defendant had withdrawn from his wife any authority to pledge his credit, and had expressly forbidden her to do so, the judge thereupon directed judgment to be entered for the defendant.

Upon appeal to the House of Lords, from the Court of Appeal affirming the decision of the judge at the trial, it was contended on the part of the plaintiffs (1) that the fact that the defendant and his wife were living together, raised a presumption that the latter had authority to pledge her husband's credit, and (2) that a secret revocation of such authority by the husband was insufficient, the mere fact of marriage implying that the wife possessed such authority.

*Held*—That the plaintiffs could not succeed upon the grounds (1) that the mere fact of marriage does not make the wife the agent in law for her husband to bind him and to pledge his credit as though she were a feme sole, *except* in the case of necessity, as where her husband has deserted her, or compelled her to live apart from him without properly providing for her, and that



where the husband and wife are living together it cannot be assumed that she is not properly provided for, and is obliged to incur expense for which the husband is liable; and (2) that the mere fact of cohabitation does not imply such authority on the part of the wife—cohabitation not being even a status like marriage—and that where there is no consent by the husband to justify the proposition that he has held his wife out as his agent, the question of whether he has given her authority to pledge his credit is one of fact.

That in the present case the husband and wife had no establishment of their own, but were living in an hotel as servants; that the plaintiffs gave credit to the wife alone, and made out the bills in her name; that the defendant knew nothing whatever of the transaction, and could not therefore be said by any act or consent on his part to have held out his wife as having authority to pledge his credit, but that he had, on the contrary, previously expressly revoked any such authority; and that though the goods might be said to be necessaries in the sense of being suitable to the wife's station in life, they could not be said to be necessaries in the sense of being requisite to her, having regard to the allowance made to her by her husband (*Debenham v. Mellon*, 50 L.J.H.L. 155; 43 L.T.N.S. 673; Commented on 16 L.J. 125).

*Note*—This case, though reported fully when before the Court of Appeal has been reported again *in extenso* on appeal to the House of Lords on account of its general importance. The present decision merely adopts the law as laid down in the case of *Jolly v. Rees*, decided in 1864, and the gist of that and the present decision is that the mere fact of the cohabitation of married persons does not *per se* constitute the wife the agent of the husband to pledge his credit, but that where he has treated his wife as such agent, and has allowed tradesmen to regard her as such, he can only withdraw his authority upon giving notice thereof to such tradesmen. In short, each case depends upon its particular circumstances, and resolves itself into a question of fact, viz., whether the wife had express or implied authority to pledge her husband's credit.

The only distinction to be noticed between the decision in the House of Lords and that in the Court of Appeal, is that the former held that necessity on the part of the wife compelling her to pledge her husband's credit, could not be said ever *primâ facie* to arise where she and her husband were living together—while, on the other hand, the Court of Appeal suggested that she could so pledge his

credit where she was living with her husband and he provided her with nothing but shelter.

**WILL—BEQUEST TO MARRIED WOMAN** *not* FOR HER SEPARATE USE—REDUCTION INTO POSSESSION BY HER HUSBAND.—A. by his will bequeathed one-third of the residue of his personal estate to his niece B., but *not* for her separate use. The will was prepared by B.'s husband, who was A.'s confidential adviser, and by it he was appointed sole trustee and executor. B.'s husband subsequently made his will, and bequeathed the bulk of his property to strangers. Upon his death an action was brought by his trustees for the administration of his estate, whereupon B. applied to the Court to have it declared that her husband's residuary personal estate represented the property bequeathed to her by A., and that her husband was merely trustee of such property for her—upon the ground that A., when bequeathing her such property, intended it to be for her separate use; that her husband ought to have informed A. that unless the property was left to her separate use it would become his (the husband's) property, or that in preparing the will he ought to have so left it to her separate use, and that if she was not, in consequence of such omission, entitled to the whole of such property, then that she might be declared entitled to two sums of £12,000 and £5,000, forming part of the property bequeathed to her by A., and not reduced into possession by her husband.

**Held**—That B.'s husband was not merely a trustee for B. of the property bequeathed to her by A., and that she could not therefore claim against her husband's estate the whole of the property so bequeathed to her by A., but that she was entitled to claim against his estate in respect of the two sums of £12,000 and £5,000, such sums never having been reduced into possession by him, but merely dealt with by him in the character of executor of A.'s will (*In re Birchall, Wilson v. Birchall*, W.N. (1881), p. 26; 16 N.C. 23).

**Note**—It seems clear that A. intended that the property should be left to his niece for her separate use, as a bequest to a married woman, unless for her separate use, leaves it in the power of the husband to convert the property at any moment to his own use, which is called reducing it into possession. Until, however, the hus-

band has unmistakeably dealt with the property in some way, *e.g.*, by selling it or transferring it into his name, the property remains that of his wife, and belongs to her absolutely upon his death, as the law assumes that where the husband has not reduced such property into possession, he intended his wife to have the benefit of it.

**MARRIED WOMAN—WILL—HUSBAND'S CONSENT—HUSBAND CO-EXECUTOR—DEATH BEFORE PROBATE—CONSENT NOT WITHDRAWN—GRANT TO SURVIVING EXECUTOR.**—*B.*, a married woman, died having made a will of which she appointed her husband and brother executors. *B.*'s husband when the will was made, signed a memorandum at the foot consenting to its execution. *B.* died, and her husband being at the time seriously ill her brother alone applied for probate of the will. Before granting probate the probate registry required the formal consent of *B.*'s husband, as he did not join in the application for probate, but before this consent could be obtained he died.

Upon an application to the Court by *B.*'s brother, the surviving executor, to allow probate of the will upon an affidavit that *B.*'s husband had intimated his intention of applying for probate upon his recovery.

*Held*—that the will was entitled to probate—that though *B.*'s husband might have revoked his assent to the will at any time previous to probate, he had not done so, but had on the contrary always assented, and that he having assented to the will being made there was ample proof of the continuance of such assent after *B.*'s death. (In the goods of Sarah Cooper, deceased, 44. L.T.N.S. 111; 25. S.J. 335; 29. W.R. 444.)

*Note*—A married woman cannot make a will without the assent of her husband, *except* (1) where the property is her own separate estate, or (2) where she has a power of appointment over such property, or (3) where such property has been acquired by her after having obtained a protection order from a magistrate, or (4) where she is merely executrix of such property; in all other cases she must obtain the consent of her husband. The husband may revoke his consent at any time before probate is granted, but his consent may be implied from circumstances, and if after his wife's death he acts upon the will or once agrees to it, he is not, it seems, at liberty to retract his consent, and oppose probate, and where as in the present case the husband expressly consents to such will being made, very little proof is required to show that he continued his consent to such will after his wife's death.

**MARRIAGE—AGREEMENT TO SETTLE—SUBSEQUENT SETTLEMENT—SETTLEMENT EMBODYING WHOLE CONTRACT.**—In 1853 A. whose daughter was engaged to be married to B., wrote to B. and informed him that, upon his daughter's marriage £2000 would be settled upon her, that upon her mother's death she would have another £2000, and upon his (A.'s) death, a further sum of £2000. The marriage took place in 1854, and A. and his wife thereupon settled £2000 upon B. and his wife, but no reference was made in the settlement to, nor did A. enter into a covenant to settle any further sum. A.'s wife died in 1870, but no claim was made by B. or his wife for the £2000 referred to in A.'s letter. A. died in 1879, and an action was commenced for the administration of his estate, whereupon B. and his wife claimed to be creditors of such estate in respect of the two sums of £2000 referred to in A.'s letter, upon the grounds (1) that the marriage was entered into solely upon the faith of the statements contained in such letter and (2) that the settlement was only a part performance of the contract contained in such letter.

*Held*—that B. and his wife were not entitled to their claim; that though the marriage did not take place for nearly a year after A.'s letter, no reference was made in the settlement or at the time it was made to any further sum to be settled by A.; that if B. still considered such letter binding upon A., he should have insisted when the settlement was made, upon the insertion of a covenant by A. carrying out the terms of such letter, or at all events have informed him that he still considered it binding upon him, and that though the letter would have been a binding contract if the marriage had taken place very soon after it was written, yet so long a time having elapsed, and no claim having been made even for the £2000 upon the death of A.'s wife, the whole contract by A. must be regarded as contained in the settlement, and the agreement in the letter as abandoned. (*Re Badcock—Kingdon v. Tagart*, 43. L.T.N.S. 689; 29. W.R. 278.)

*Note*—It seems only right that a formal document, such as a marriage settlement, should be regarded as conclusive upon the parties, and if as in the present case, the proposed terms of settlement are

contained in an informal document, such as a letter, it would seem to be only ordinary prudence to see that the whole of such terms are embodied in the actual settlement. At the time when the letter referred to in the above case was written by A., he no doubt fully intended to carry out the terms of such letter, but upon subsequent investigation, he probably found that he could not afford to settle more than the £2,000 upon his daughter, and consequently regarded those terms in the letter which were not included in the settlement as abandoned.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### UNIVERSITY EDUCATION OF WOMEN : ST. ANDREWS.

THE following circular is issued :

The Senatus of the University of St. Andrews having received six Petitions on the subject of University Education of Women—one from the LL.A.'s of the University, with 34 signatures attached; one from the Association for the Higher Education of Women in Dundee, signed by the Countess of Airlie, President; one from a similar Association for the city and county of Perth, signed by Mrs. Drummond, of Megginch, President; one from Arbroath, with 15 signatures; one from Dunfermline, with 85, and one from Cupar-Fife, with 54 signatures—expresses its gratification at the desire for the Higher Education embodied in these Petitions.

The Petitioners ask two things:—

*First.*—They all ask for such a Course of University Instruction as the Senatus may think fit to grant.

*Second.*—Some of them ask for admission to Degrees in Arts.

As to the *First*, the Senatus expresses its willingness to grant separate Courses of systematic University instruction to Women—provided a sufficient sum of money is raised by the Petitioners (or others) to enable this to be done—especially as during the earlier stages of the experiment, the attendance at the several classes might

not be so large as to furnish adequate remuneration to the Professors without such a fund.

As to the *Second*, the Senatus resolves as follows :—

I. That, in the meantime, as an equivalent for Graduation, women Students be recommended to take the L.L.A. Examination in all the subjects necessary for the M.A. Degree, inasmuch as the Examination Papers used in the two cases are the same.

II. The Senatus is further willing to urge upon Parliament the claims of women to the privileges of Matriculation and Graduation, provided that the attendance of Students, the demand for Graduation, and the existing interests of the University warrant such a step.

III. That every female Student attending the University shall lodge or board in some house in St. Andrews, to be approved of by the Senatus.

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[A Committee of Professors was appointed to correspond with the Petitioners as to the practical realization of the above Resolutions.—Professor KNIGHT, *Convener*].

12th March, 1881.

Subscriptions towards the proposed fund should be in the hands of Mrs. Daniell, Hon. Treasurer, 13, Bell Street, St. Andrews, not later than the 1st of June.

#### CAMBRIDGE.

We learn from Cambridge that the Vice-Chancellor has received the following memorial on the admission of women to examinations: "To the Reverend, the Vice-Chancellor—whereas doubts have been expressed whether the graces which were approved by the Senate on Thursday, February 24th, 1881, for the admission of women to certain examinations of the University, and allotting to them a place in the class list, are within the powers conferred by the University Statutes. We the undersigned resident Members of the Senate, most respectfully request that such steps as may seem most desirable to yourself and the Council of the Senate, be taken for determining such doubts." Various technical objections continue to be raised, ranging from the

illegality of examining women at all down to the suggestion that Tripos examiners would be tempted to a conflict between duty (the examination of men) and a mere *parergon* (the examination of women). But as Dr. E. C. Clark in the recent discussions pointed out, all examiners nominated after the present time would find the examination of women become a part of their duty. There are fifty signatures, including those of Dr. Corrie, Master of Jesus College; Dr. Neville, Master of Magdalene; Dr. Okes, Prevost of King's; and Dr. Phelps, Master of Sidney. The Vice-Chancellor himself, the Rev. Dr. Perowne, Master of Corpus Christi is known to object to the admission of women. Meanwhile the Syndicate appointed to consider the memorials relating to the encouragement to be given to the higher education of women, following up the vote of February 24th, report: "They are of opinion that the administration of the scheme proposed in their previous report, should be entrusted to a permanent Syndicate, and since a part of the work that such Syndicate would have to do is similar in its nature to the work now done by the Local Examinations and Lectures Syndicate, they think that a saving of labour and expense will be gained if the functions of that body be extended to include these new duties. They have ascertained that the Local Examination Syndicate see no objection to this course, and they therefore propose that it be adopted." The Syndicate proceed to recommend a scale of fees for adoption as payable by candidates for examination, varying from £1 to £6, according to the examination gone in for.

The late Dr. Bateson was one of the most earnest supporters of the movement for advancing the education of women.

THE *Academy* says, Newnham has taken its rightful name of "College," and its girl undergraduates fill both its North and South Halls, for it has had to be doubled since it began. An anecdote is told of the way in which the Premier's daughter has made herself almost a necessity in every part of the college life. How she fills her place in the highest section of it is known to all; but a few months ago the gas in a lecture room

went out, and at once rose the familiar cry, Where's Miss Gladstone? She was the one to set everything right.

#### KING'S COLLEGE.

It has been decided by the Council of King's College to give their official recognition to the lectures for ladies, which have been independently conducted by members of the staff for the last four years at Kensington. A circular in furtherance of the movement for the higher education of women (in connection with King's College), has been issued by the Executive Committee. The circular states that the college has constantly from time to time advanced and developed its system to meet educational needs, till at the present time it embraces six distinct although united departments, and educates regularly about 900 students and 600 boys in the school. At this moment the necessity for a new and important development has been strongly urged upon the Council. The chief step of educational progress now generally felt to be necessary, and commanding accordingly a large share of public interest and support, is the promotion of the higher education of women. The Council believe that they cannot signalise the fiftieth anniversary of the college better than by attempting this important development of its usefulness. They desire to create a new department of the college, locally distinct from the others, but under the same system and government, in which the advantages hitherto enjoyed by male students may be extended to women also, and the work which has been tentatively but auspiciously begun, may be completely and permanently organised. The special "Jubilee" fund which it is proposed to raise, will be chiefly devoted to the purpose of establishing a permanent college at Kensington for the higher education of women. The number of entries for the various courses of lectures (any one or more of which may be attended by ladies over seventeen years of age) has averaged nearly 600 each term. The college cannot, however, carry this desire into effect from its existing resources, which are already heavily burdened. It has been estimated that a sum of £25,000 will be required, and for this sum the Council



earnestly appeal to public support. Donations may be paid to any of the Committee, to the Rev. A. Barry, D.D., or Mr. J. W. Cunningham, King's College, London, or to the account of King's College, London, Department for Women, at Messrs. Coutts and Co.'s.

#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

**THE ELLEN WATSON MEMORIAL FUND.**—A meeting was held on February 16th, at 68, Grosvenor street, W., to determine to what institution the scholarship for mathematics, to be founded in memory of Miss Ellen Watson, should be offered. The choice lay between University College and the London University. Miss Watson was the first woman to enter the classes of mathematics at University College. Her success was great, and in 1877 she gained the Mayer de Rothschild exhibition, which is awarded annually to the most distinguished mathematical student of the year. In 1879 Miss Watson was obliged by failing health to leave England. She went to Grahamstown, South Africa, where she died in December, at the age of 24. The proposed scholarship has been suggested by her friends with a view to encourage other students of her sex. It is, however, not to be confined to ladies, gentlemen being admitted to the competition. The chair was taken by Professor Williamson, who explained that the object of the meeting was to decide upon the best way to utilise the fund collected in memory of Miss Watson. Lord Derby wrote to the effect that he thought the scholarship or prize, if worth giving at all, should be a large one. The fund should not be less than £300, but if it amounted to £250 he was prepared to give £10 in addition. Mr. Arthur H. Spokes moved a resolution to the effect that the scholarship be offered to University College. This was seconded by Professor Rowe. Mr. Fitch advocated the claims of the University of London, which had recently thrown open its degrees to women. He thought the matter should not be settled at once. The opinion of those who were likely to become subscribers should be obtained before anything definite was decided upon. Miss Orme supported the suggestion made by Mr. Fitch. This course

was also advocated by Archdeacon White. Miss Heatherbigg thought they should decide the matter at once. They would have a stronger claim upon subscribers if they went before them with a definite plan. After some further discussion the proposal to offer the scholarship to University College was carried with but few dissentients.

The *Athenæum* says that the new College at Liverpool is designed for both sexes, and that at Owen's College there is a talk of following the example of University College, Gower Street, and admitting women to the lectures.

DULWICH COLLEGE.—At the meeting of the London School Board on March 17th, it was recommended that any surplus income of the college should be applicable in the first place to the establishment and maintenance in London, south of the Thames, of a college or school of the highest class for girls. The committee recommended that the Commissioners be urged to make for such girls' school a provision similar to that suggested for elementary and middle schools, with scholarships from the former to the latter.

#### CROSTHWAITE HIGH SCHOOL. PREFERENCE OF BOYS.

The draft of the new scheme for Crosthwaite High School is now published, and affords another instance of the unevenness with which money is dealt out for the education of girls and boys. It proposes to keep up an elementary school for both sexes, and the remainder of the income, together with a legacy lately received and any special gifts, are to be allowed to accumulate till there is a sufficient fund to provide a site and buildings for a High School for boys alone, or to carry on such a school meanwhile in hired buildings. The foundation, we understand, was made for the benefit of girls as well as boys, and from the subsequent provisions of the scheme, it appears that the only chance that girls have of obtaining a higher education than elementary depends upon the failure to improve the position of the boys. The *Keswick Guardian*, April 2, remarks:—

This is following too much in the wake of what has been too much the method of dealing with educational foundations to the disadvantage of females. Section 63 provides that if a site and buildings

are not permanently provided within such a period as the Charity Commissioners shall fix, and if for want of buildings otherwise available, the High School is not carried on, the income of the Foundation applicable for the purposes, including the income from the money accumulated as a building fund, shall be applied by the Governors in maintaining exhibitions, each of the yearly value of not less than £15 nor more than £25, tenable at any place of education higher than elementary appointed by the Governors, and to be competed for by boys and girls of the parish of Crosthwaite, who are and have for at least six years been in any Public Elementary School. \* \* With a comparatively small income we know there are difficulties in the way of doing as could be wished, but because there are these difficulties it is unjust to revoke the claims of the girls solely on that account. The income of the Foundation, owing to the improved value of the lands, is more than is required for a pure and simply elementary school, yet not sufficient to maintain two higher schools. Our contention is, that half the surplus left, after providing for the mixed elementary school, belongs to the girls, and in justice to them as well as to the wishes of the original donors, should be applied to their advancement. Not for one moment do we deny the desirableness there may be for a higher school for boys. On the contrary we should be glad to see one, and to this end we ask, might not an appeal be made to public liberality to augment the fund fairly at the disposal of the Governors for this purpose, and so avoid the benefiting of one sex at the expense of the other.

#### POOR LAW GUARDIAN ELECTION.

The last week has been a busy one in many wards of the metropolis, and the contest has been severe. Many ladies who might be excellently qualified for this work draw back from the excitement of the election, and an effort has been made to secure them nomination by another method. The Local Government Board has the right in certain districts where there is not a sufficient proportion of ex-officio guardians to nominate persons to that office, and ladies could advantageously be appointed as well as gentlemen. On Friday the 18th, a deputation consisting of the Hon. Miss Stanley, Miss Louisa Twining, Miss Rye, Miss Müller, Mrs. Charles Hancock, Mrs. Lancaster, Miss F. Davenport Hill, Miss E. B. Müller, Mr. Geo. Hill, Mr. W. A. Lyon, and Mr. J. Dixey, accompanied by Mr. Caine, M.P., Col. Alexander, M.P., Sir Charles Trevelyan, Mr. Hopwood, M.P., and Mr. Pennington, M.P., had an interview with Mr. Dodson, President of the Local Government Board of Works, to represent the claims of women to a share in the administration of the Poor

Law, and recommend the appointment of ladies as members of Boards of Guardians. Miss Maud Stanley, on behalf of the deputation pointed out to Mr. Dodson, several respects in which the administration of the Poor Law at present failed from the want of the co-operation of women. Sir Charles Trevelyan said the care of the poor had at all times devolved naturally on women, and at present the system of district visiting was a necessary complement of the Poor Law. We must not forget, he said, that the human race were divided into men and women, and more than half were women: but hitherto the care of the poor—men, women, and children—had been left entirely to men. Mr. Dodson wished not to be supposed to differ from what had been said as to the value of the services of women in connection with the care of the sick poor and the young; but as the deputation was asking him to make a precedent, and he wished to guard against saying that a precedent might not be made, he would like to reserve his judgment. He requested, however, to have a list of qualified women who were willing to serve, forwarded to him.

The election in ST. PANCRAS was particularly lively. There are eight wards and eighteen elected guardians, and for these eighteen seats no less than 40 candidates were nominated, five of whom were ladies. In No. 2 ward, or Haverstock-hill, there were five candidates, two being the former members, both ladies, Mrs. Howell and Miss Andrews and three men. For No. 4 or Regent's Park, were three of the former members, and as new candidates—Miss Flora Margaret Davenport Hill, daughter of the late Matthew Davenport Hill, and author of "Children of the State," and other well-known works, Mr. T. W. Stephenson, and Mr. H. Drew, a taxing-master in the Court of Chancery. In No. 5 Ward, the old members, Messrs. Ross and Spenelly were opposed by Miss Eliza Sedgman Ledgett, and Mr. B. S. Lancaster, a chemist. In No. 8, or Brunswick Ward, the Rev. Canon Spence, the vicar of St. Pancras, stood with the Marchioness of Lothian, against the sitting members—Messrs. R. Champ and H. Skoines.

The result of the contest is that four ladies were elected. In Ward 2 Miss Andrews was re-elected with

956 votes. In Ward 4 Miss F. Davenport Hill with 1845 votes. In Ward 5 Miss Lidgett with 990; and in Ward 8 the Marchioness of Lothian with 1184 votes. Mrs. Howell lost her seat.

In PADDINGTON, Mrs. Charles, 16, Aldridge Villas, Westbourne Park, was nominated. She is a lady well accustomed to parish work.

In ISLINGTON, in Canonbury and St. Peter's Ward, Miss Helena Downing was nominated along with Mr. Stonelake. She is well known beyond the boundary of the parish for her earnest and eloquent advocacy of the cause of women. A meeting was held on April 4th in the schoolroom of the Packington Street Chapel, which heartily pledged itself to support her. Miss Downing was elected third on the list.

In KENSINGTON, Miss Maryanne Donkin was nominated. Miss Donkin has for several years been engaged in various charitable undertakings, which have made her familiar with the habits of the poor, and with the best means of relieving distress; and has been an active worker for the Charity Organisation Society, the Association for befriending Young Servants, the Kensington Workhouse Girls' Aid Committee, and other institutions whose object is the permanent improvement of the condition of the poor. For many years she has regularly attended the most important meetings of the Guardians while applications for relief have been under consideration, and has frequently been able to find employment for young girls and others in temporary difficulties, and to procure for distressed persons assistance of a kind which the Guardians were unable to offer. She has thus been the means of enabling many families to earn an independent living, and has saved them from becoming a permanent burden upon the rates. Her services have, on several occasions, been cordially acknowledged by the Board of Guardians, and a circular warmly recommending her election was signed last year by nearly all the Guardians.

The election was keenly fought, as there were 32 candidates for 18 seats. It resulted in the election of Miss Donkin by 7142 votes. She came in seventh on the poll, the highest, Dr. Anderson, who has long been a guardian, obtaining 8,648 votes.

BRISTOL.—On March 18th, a meeting was held at the Anglesea Schoolroom, Redland, in support of the candidature of ladies as guardians of the poor. The chair was taken by Mr. Mark Whitwell, and Miss Ward Andrews, guardian of St. Pancras, London, attended to address the meeting. The *Western Daily News* thus reports it:—

The CHAIRMAN said they often heard a great deal about what was, and what was not a woman's sphere, and many men took upon themselves, according to their own ideas, to decide what was her sphere. He was inclined to think that a woman had a right to work in any sphere for which God had given her power, ability, and brains to work. But it seemed to him that on a board that had to deal with the poor, especially with poor women and poor children, there could be but very little question that on such a board a woman was undoubtedly in her sphere, and he should be very much interested in hearing any objections that might be made by persons who took the opposite view. It seemed to him, however, that it required very little to be said to commend the idea to the judgment of those who had taken the trouble to reflect on the question at all. He only hoped that in the election that was to take place in the course of a few weeks, the electors of Redland, as well as other parts of the Barton Regis Union, would show that in their opinion the board of guardians was the right sphere for a woman, and he hoped the time was not far off when several women would be connected with the boards of guardians, not only in that immediate neighbourhood, but all through the country, because he believed it would conduce very much to the welfare of poor women and poor children found in unions. The sympathy that an educated woman would be able to show, and desired to show, to her sisters who were in less favoured circumstances, would be such as to exercise a most beneficial influence over those women who unfortunately had to become recipients of parochial relief. He was also of opinion that lady guardians would have a highly beneficial effect with regard to the children. He hoped there would be lady candidates for election to the Barton Regis Board of Guardians, and that the electors would show that, although the thing was new, they were not necessarily prejudiced against the idea. He then called upon Miss Andrews to address them.

Miss ANDREWS, in the course of her address, gave an interesting account of her work as a guardian in the St. Pancras Union. She did not see that without women pauperism could be touched in the main, and she did not see either how any reasonable person could object to the principal of having women as guardians. There were more women and children than men in every union, and to look after them was women's work. No matter how perfect boards of guardians might be now managed by men, they must be better to have women elected with them. The speaker referred to three departments—out-door relief, the workhouse itself, and district schools—which she thought required women's attention. She also replied to objections which were made to the principle of having lady guardians.

Mr. E. A. LEONARD moved—"That this meeting, having heard the address just given, considers that much of the work devolving on guardians of the poor is suitable for women."

Rev. H. A. THOMAS, who seconded the resolution, said if ladies were willing to serve as guardians of the poor, the public ought to be only too grateful for their services, and he hoped that when the election for the Barton Regis Union came on, it would be proved that in that neighbourhood, at least, the public did appreciate the kindness and public spirit of those ladies who were coming forward as candidates. He did not imagine the meeting was held so much with the object of passing a proposition which was so evident as with a view of awakening the interest of the electors in that district in the subject. That movement was not originated because of any dissatisfaction with the work done or the manner in which it had been done in times past, so much as from a strong conviction, a conviction he entirely shared, that yet better work might be done in future times if the eyes of a woman, the heart of a woman, and the hand of a woman were also engaged in the service.

Rev. A. C. MACPHERSON supported the resolution, giving various reasons why he thought ladies should be elected to serve as guardians of the poor.

The CHAIRMAN asked for an expression of opinion from anyone in the room, and Mr. T. PEASE, Chairman of the Barton Regis Board of Guardians, addressed the meeting, and admitted that there might be cases at boards of guardians when closer and more frequent supervision would be beneficial, and there might also be details with which women could deal better than men, but at the same time he claimed that, generally speaking, guardians discharged their duties in a spirit of fairness, and sympathy, and with an honest purpose.

Mrs. A. TANNER moved, and Mr. W. COUNT seconded,—"That this meeting hereby pledges itself to support the election of any suitable lady candidates."

The resolution, like the previous one, was carried unanimously.—

Eventually, only one lady, Miss Ball, was nominated as candidate for the Parish of Westbury-on-Tryne, in the Union of Barton Regis, Bristol. The election was on the 8th. It resulted, unfortunately, in her defeat, as she only obtained 1042 votes, the successful candidate having 1224. Several thousand papers were rendered useless in consequence of informality in filling up: possibly many of these were for her.

Miss JENNER, of Wenroe, was nominated for two parishes, St. Mary's and Llandaff, in Cardiff. Another lady, Mrs. DAVIES, a widow, was also nominated for St. Mary's, Cardiff. The election was on the 11th.

Miss CAROLINE M. A. BRIGHT was nominated for Abbots Leigh, in the Union of Bedminster, East

Somerset; but this was done by friends without consulting her, and she has retired.

Mrs. MOLLQUHAM, of Staverton House, near Cheltenham, was nominated for Boddington, in Tewkesbury Union. She was elected by a majority of 71 votes.

Miss FRANCES A. GILL, 13, New Street, Leicester, was nominated for St. Martin's Parish, in that town.

### SUFFRAGE.

The *Suffrage Journal* tells us that the general election of the Isle of Man began on March 21st. The total number of women electors in the island averages 700. The polling for three Members for Ayre Sheading took place on March 22nd. This is the most extended district in the island, and there were four polling places, Andreas, Bride, Ramsay, and Lezayre. At three polling stations women were the first to record a vote:—Miss Eliza Jane Goldsmid, of Ramsey, at Lezayre; Mrs. Catherine Callow, widow, of Ballakilley, at Bride; Miss Esther Kee Leodest, at Andreas. With two exceptions every woman who was on the electoral roll for Ayre Sheading recorded her vote. The ballot has not been adopted in the Isle of Man, and at half-past five the result of the poll was declared in favour of Messrs. Farrant, Cowell, and Martin. These three gentlemen were colleagues in their candidature, and they commanded the great body of support among the people, and the votes of all the women electors.

The polling for Glanfaba Sheading took place on the 24th, but on account of the general confidence felt in the return of Mr. Sherwood, Mr. Joughin, and Colonel Anderson, the voting was slow. All the women electors who voted polled in favour of Mr. Sherwood, the leader of the movement for women's suffrage in the House of Keys. He was returned at the head of the poll. Five women voted at the Peel booth; eight at St. John's; three at Patrick; and one at Marown; total, fifteen. Not one lady voted in favour of Mr. Lockerby, and everyone voted for Mr. Sherwood, the mover of the female franchise in the Keys. At Patrick, four ladies were prevented from voting owing to indisposition, but they had expressed their determination to vote for the three successful candidates.



The contest in Douglas was the most lively of all. The polling took place on the 25th; 71 ladies recorded their votes; 15 polling at the Court House, 25 at the Victoria Street booth, and 31 at the Iron Pier. The first lady who polled at the Court House was Mrs. Christian Cannell, Lord Street; at Victoria Street, the first lady to present herself was Mrs. Sarah Wood, of Buck's Road; and at the Iron Pier, Miss Emma Gelling, of Buck's Road.

Mr. Stephen, Major Taubman, and Mr. Spittall were returned. Mr. Stephen is a new member, and was the first candidate for Douglas to give prominence to his views in regard to the extension of the franchise to women occupiers, and the amendment of the laws respecting married women's property. It was possibly to this care for promoting the interests of women that he owed his position at the head of the poll.

*The Suffrage Journal* remarks:

The manner in which the women voted excited great admiration, and contrasted favourably with that of the men, who were in many cases slow and unintelligent in their manner of polling. Some of the men seemed to have no distinct idea of the names of the candidates, and asked irregular questions as to who they ought to vote for. But the women were without exception quick, intelligent, and business-like in their procedure. They knew for whom they meant to vote, and in answer to the query of the polling clerk they delivered the three names clearly and without hesitation. The women electors have deserved and have won admiration from all for the manner in which they have discharged the trust committed to them; they have demonstrated the fitness of women for the duty of voting in elections; they have received in the discharge of this duty the sympathy and support of men of all shades of opinion, and their appearance at the polls has been received with universal pleasure and approval.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS, IRELAND.

On March 16th the annual meeting of the North of Ireland branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage was held in the Lombard Hall, Belfast. The attendance was large, and was largely composed of ladies. The Mayor took the chair. In the course of his address he said he had long held the opinion that women householders were entitled to the franchise, and that those who contribute to the taxation of the country should have a voice in the election of its affairs. There were anomalies in connection

with these franchises which went far to strengthen this position in Belfast; for instance, ladies had the privilege of voting at harbour and poor law elections, while they have no vote in municipal and parliamentary elections. He called on Miss Tod to read the annual report and statement of accounts. The usual resolutions were spoken to by the Rev. R. J. Lynd, the Rev. H. Osborne, Mr. Greenhill, Miss Tod, Miss Gardner, and Mr. John Shaw Brown.

At Limerick, on February 23rd, a public meeting of the essay and debating class attached to the Catholic Literary Institute was held, when the proposition discussed was "That the present social and political disabilities of women are unjust and impolitic." The debate was well sustained on both sides, and was well attended by the members and by the general public, including a large number of ladies. It was decided in the affirmative by a good majority.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS, ENGLAND AND WALES.

A public meeting in support of Mr. Mason's resolution to extend the parliamentary franchise to women householders and ratepayers was held in the Assembly Rooms, Town Hall, Cardiff, on Wednesday evening, March 9th. The Mayor of Cardiff (Mr. Rees Jones) presided, and he was supported on the platform by the Rev. J. Waite, Mr. F. Sonley Johnstone (editor *South Wales Daily News*), the Rev. W. Watkiss, the Rev. A. Tilly, Miss Jessie Craigen, Miss Helen Blackburn, Mrs. M'Illquham, Mr. J. W. Manning, Miss Jenner, and Dr. Morgan. There was a very large attendance of ladies and gentlemen, the Assembly Room being crowded to the door, every available standing place being occupied.

On March 14th a very large and cordial audience assembled at Merthyr, in the Temperance Hall, for the same object, and Mr. David Williams (high constable) presided. Another meeting was held on March 15th at Newport, Monmouthshire, in the Albert Hall. Mr. Jacob (Mayor of Newport) presided, and was supported by the Rev. J. Douglas, Messrs. C. Lewis, T. J. Beynon, J. E. Ward, S. Batchelor, and several ladies.

At Guiseley, Yorkshire, a large and enthusiastic meet-

ing was held in the Town Hall. Mr. Jonas Mitchell occupied the chair; and the meeting was addressed by Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, Miss Louisa Carbutt, of Leeds, and Mrs. Ellis, of Batley.

AT Exeter a public meeting for the same purpose took place in the Royal Public Rooms, April 6th. Mrs. Ashworth-Hallett, Lady Bowring and Miss Blackburn were among the speakers.

MEETINGS have also been held in Nottingham and Mansfield, where the heartiest interest is taken in the movement; Mrs. Cowen, Mrs. Scatcherd and others were the speakers.

#### MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE, HYDE.

The town of Hyde, in Cheshire, has just been incorporated as a municipal borough, and the women householders, of whom there are more than a thousand, show themselves fully appreciative of the value of the vote. A crowded meeting of women only was held there a fortnight ago, and a general determination expressed to use the vote loyally and after due reflection.

#### THE MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN BILL.

On March 16th, Mr. HOPWOOD moved the second reading of the Maintenance of Children Bill.

Mr. WARTON (Bridport) asked where legislation of the kind proposed by the hon. member for Stockport was going to stop. The House ought to protest against this petty, peddling, meddling, mixing up of domestic affairs. It was a Bill the object of which was to make the position of wives still better in regard to their husbands, by compelling the latter when a separation had taken place to contribute to the support of the children who might be under the wife's control.

Mr. LITTON (Tyrone) said it was always difficult to know whether the hon. and learned member for Bridport was in earnest or not, but speaking seriously, he (Mr. Litton) approved of the Bill, and he hoped that it would be extended to Ireland.

Mr. GREGORY (Sussex, E.) referred to other legislation specially affecting women which the House was from time to time called upon to deal with. It was proposed

in one Bill to give a wife the entire control and disposition of her property, and to oust the husband from any direction over it, and now they were asked to give a wife the power to go to a court of summary jurisdiction for an order to compel her husband to maintain her children under any circumstances.

Mr. HORWOOD (Stockport) thought that the Bill sufficiently spoke for itself. Its objects were, in his opinion, exceedingly modest, and the particular cases with which it proposed to deal would be left to the judgment of magistrates, who must at any rate be credited with common sense. At present a wife who had been deserted by her husband had only one remedy; she must apply to the poor-law authorities for assistance to maintain her children, and the poor-law officers must then take steps to recover the costs from the husband by bringing him before the magistrate. Was it fair that a wife should be driven to those straits? Was it not a reasonable proposal that she should go before the magistrates and say, "I am ready to support myself, but I ask as against my husband who is behaving thus, that he should be compelled to maintain his and my children?" No such order was to be made unless the magistrate was satisfied that the husband was able to educate his children and had refused to do so.

Mr. LEWIS (Londonderry) remarked that a wife had at present the right to pledge the credit of her husband for necessaries for herself and children. The Bill placed a dangerous power in the hands of a spiteful wife. It was one of a series of measures introduced in that House for the purpose of separating those whom God had joined together. He hoped that before a division was taken the views of the Government would be declared as to this kind of legislation. Feeling that some limit must be set to legislation of that kind, he begged to move that the Bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. COURTNEY (Liskeard) observed that the Divine will to which the hon. and learned member for Londonderry had referred might be appealed to in the same way to cover every form of iniquity. The law already interfered with the relations existing between husband

and wife, and the present Bill, if it proposed to go a little further in that direction, did not exceed the limits of common sense, by which, of course, all such legislation was to be bounded. It was said that it would give a dangerous power to married women. Every remedy provided by the law might be made a pretext for an unfounded charge, but that fact furnished no argument against establishing a legal remedy which justice demanded. The Government had no hesitation in approving the principle of the Bill.

Mr. GIBSON (Dublin University) gathered from the enthusiasm of the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department in favour of the Bill that he was not a married man. The measure, as he read it, contained some very startling provisions indeed. There was nothing in it to prevent a married woman who was living with her husband from appealing to a court for an order against him on the ground that he was not bringing up the children in the way she desired. Or, again, the wife cohabiting with her husband might imagine that she was the more capable person of the two and apply for an order against him on that ground. Then, in case of couples living apart, the machinery of the law was to be put in motion in the district where the wife happened to be, and the husband, who might be living at the other end of the kingdom, was to receive no notice of the proceedings. At all events, if he did receive notice, he would be required to attend the court in the locality of which the wife was a resident. It seemed to him that what was sauce for the gander ought to be sauce for the goose—and having regard to the happiness of English husbands and wives, he trusted that if the Bill was read a second time, it would only be on the clear understanding that it should be substantially altered in Committee.

Sir R. CROSS (S.W. Lancashire) admitted the right of a deserted wife to obtain an order against her husband for the adequate support of their children, but he could not conceive that the House would sanction the application of the Bill to the case of husbands and wives who were living together. He could only assent to the second reading of the Bill on the assurance of its pro-

moter that no interference of that kind with conjugal relations was intended.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Sir H. James) said it was a well-known principle of law that children should be supported by their father, and what the Bill aimed at was to carry out that principle without the unfortunate children having first to undergo the humiliation of receiving parish relief. He hoped the House would agree to the second reading of the Bill on the understanding that the case of husbands and wives living together would be excluded from its operation.

Mr. HOPWOOD remarked that it was of course in the power of the House to amend the Bill as it pleased in Committee. He hoped, however, to be able to show very good reasons why the Bill should remain as it was. Mr. GIBSON wished to have from the hon. member a distinct answer whether or not he would consent to the suggested limitation of the Bill. Mr. BRODRICK (Surrey, W.) said that unless the hon. gentleman could give them some assurance on the subject, he should move that the debate be now adjourned. Mr. HOPWOOD could only answer as he had answered before, that that was in the power of the House.

Mr. BRODRICK then moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House divided, and the numbers were—

For the adjournment	...	...	71
Against	...	...	141

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Majority ... .. 70

Mr. HICKS (Cambridgeshire) said that as the hon. and learned member's answer to the appeal made to him was so unsatisfactory, he should state to the House the reasons why, in his opinion, this Bill ought not to be read a second time. The hon. gentleman continued his remarks till a quarter to six o'clock, when, in accordance with the standing order,

The debate soon adjourned.

The Bill is probably therefore lost for the session, as it will be very difficult to find another day. If Mr. Warton objects to domestic affairs being brought before Parliament, we may surely lament that Members of the

House of Commons should waste so much valuable time in obstructing a simple measure of justice.

#### CONJUGAL RIGHTS.

A case appeared on March 24th before the Right Hon. the President in the Probate and Division Court, which clearly showed the state of the laws. Dr. Tristram, Q.C., and Mr. Currie appeared for the petitioner; and Mr. Searle for the respondent. This was the husband's petition for a restitution of conjugal rights. The respondent answered, and charged her husband with cruelty. Mr. H. Willis said he married the respondent in April, 1870, she being at that time the widow of Sir Peter Fleetwood. She ceased to live with him in the October of the same year, and although he had made several attempts to induce her to return to him, he had not succeeded in doing so. Cross-examined—His wife might be about 70 now. He knew nothing as to the extent of her property. It was not a question of terms; he wanted his wife. No other witness was called, and Mr. Searle said he should not put the respondent in the box. The learned President remarked that it was no part of his duty to comment on the state of the law, but he could not help observing that he knew of no other country in which a judge could call upon an unwilling wife to resume co-habitation with her husband. In all his experience he never remembered a case of this kind in which there was not some sort of monetary question involved. He was bound to make an order for restitution of conjugal rights, but he did so very unwillingly. He would make no order as to costs.

On the above case the *Standard* had an excellent article on March 28th, which we cannot do better than reprint:—

Sir James Hannen has delivered a judgment which those who are interested in law reform will do well to consider. According to the reported accounts of the case, a petitioner who appeared before the Divorce Court as a suitor for the restitution of conjugal rights was married to the respondent at St. James's Church, Hatcham, in the April of 1870. In the following October, his wife, who at the time of her marriage was a widow, and possessed in her own right of an income of one hundred and fifty pounds a year, left her husband's roof and refused to return to it. To that refusal she has ever since persistently adhered. The petitioner, if we are to accept the state-

ments of his Counsel, is now a little over thirty years of age, and the respondent, his wife, is about fifty; so that at the time of his marriage he must have been a boy of twenty, and his bride a woman old enough to be his mother. Cross-examination, however, threw some doubt upon these facts, it being suggested that the lady is at this moment nearly seventy years of age, and that the only object of the suit was to force her to give her husband better terms of mutual separation than those which she had previously offered. She had, according to the statements of her Counsel, offered the petitioner fifty pounds a year, or, as an alternative, a lump sum of three hundred pounds, for the privilege of being allowed to live apart from him and without molestation. These terms the petitioner refused. According to his own account, he was not actuated by mercenary motives. His sole anxiety was to be restored to the company of his wife, who, he went on to declare upon his oath, was "very dear" to him. Hereupon Sir James Hannen somewhat trenchantly asked the man, "What would be a sufficient sum to compensate you for the loss of a wife who has lived apart from you since the October of 1870?" The reply of the petitioner was that he could not exactly put an estimate either upon his past sufferings, or upon the importance which he attached to the society of his wife in the future; but that he declined to listen to any pecuniary proposals, and insisted upon having his wife restored to him without compromise of any kind. On the petitioner's own showing his case is an unpleasant one. When a lad of twenty, he marries a woman of forty, or thereabouts. She has some little property of her own; and he, so far as the evidence goes, has none. Within six months she leaves him. He, on his part, allows ten years to elapse, and then, for reasons best known to himself, endeavours to bring the lady under his marital power. It is difficult to suppose that a young man only thirty-one years old can be anxious for the consort of a wife who, according to his own statement, is twenty years older than himself, and who has lived apart from him without any remonstrance on his part for ten years.

The President of the Divorce Court, in giving judgment, expressed a very strong opinion upon the case and upon its merits. "It is not," said his lordship, "any part of the duty of a judge to comment on the law; but I cannot forbear from saying that the law in this matter calls for consideration. I am not aware of any other country in which a judge can force an unwilling wife to return to her husband. I never exercise this jurisdiction without the greatest pain, and, notwithstanding the statement of this gentleman, I have never known a case in which it was not a question of terms." Judgment, of course, had in fact to be given that the lady should return to her husband within three months; and there can be little doubt, as Sir James Hannen significantly suggested, what this order means. According to established authorities, the Court cannot compel husband and wife to do more than to live under the same roof. Anything further than this is beyond the scope of its jurisdiction. Either of the two parties may, under the terms of such a decree, make the life of the other intolerable. The husband is master of the household, and he can insist that his wife shall be at home when he closes his door for



the night, and can refuse her egress until he opens it in the morning. Beyond this, however, the Divorce Court cannot help him. His own wife, thus forcibly restored to him by process of law, can refuse to speak to him, can turn her back on him, can ignore him, or even insult him. All that the Court can do is to drive her under the shelter—if it be shelter—of his roof. It can help him in no other way. No powers are vested in it to compel a wife to behave herself obediently or pleasantly. Indeed, a suit for restitution of conjugal rights is little more than a mere mockery. In the present instance, the lady is ordered to return to her husband within three months. She will probably make terms with him in the interval. If so, he will release her, no doubt, from the legal obligation at present imposed upon her. Should she refuse either to compromise with her husband or to obey the Court, motion will have to be made against her for contempt, and it will then be for the Court itself to determine what punishment her offence merits. In the worst alternative she might, perhaps, be condemned to a fine and a short period of imprisonment in Holloway gaol; and even this would probably be more acceptable to her, and would be in itself a lighter punishment, than to be forced to accept the choice of either living in the same house with her husband, or satisfying such demands as he might, by way of compromise, make upon her purse.

In some respects it is time that the Divorce Act of 1857 should be reconsidered and amended. Sir James Hannen is a strong judge. And when we find him taking so pronounced a view of his position and his responsibility, his opinion becomes the more entitled to our respect, and even the mere suggestion on his part that the law works ill must not be lightly treated. Let us ask ourselves—apart altogether from the present case—how the existing law stands. A young fortune-hunter marries a woman twice his age, but possessed of a considerable income. It is his secret expectation that he may outlive her, and enjoy her property. Meantime, for the mere sake of appearances, he consents to a settlement which gives her power over her income until her death. The marriage proves unhappy, as such marriages usually do, and the wife returns to her friends. Upon this the husband brings his suit for restitution of conjugal rights; and it would absolutely seem that the Court has no resource, if the facts be proved, except to grant his petition. Marriage is little less than a disguised form of slavery, if a wife can be thus compelled against her will to consort with a husband whom she justly loathes, but from whom she cannot by law be divorced. It is true, no doubt, as Sir James Hannen observed, that there never was such a case in which the matter was not a question of terms. In other words, a suit for restitution of conjugal rights can be brought, and when a decree has been obtained, the wife can shelter herself against its enforcement by allowing black mail to be levied upon herself or her friends. On the Continent, as his lordship pointed out, indeed even in Scotland, such matters are better arranged, and if the Court be satisfied that for the happiness of both parties there had better be a separation by consent, some such terms are decreed; although, on the other hand, free and complete divorce is impossible in countries where the Roman Catholic religion controls the free will of the State.

The English Law of Divorce certainly needs amendment in many particulars. With regard to cruelty—an essential plea on the part of any wife suing for divorce—it is more especially in an unsatisfactory condition. It is not cruelty, for instance, to use hard words, for, according to Sir Herbert Jenner Fust, “hard words break no bones.” “Petty tyranny and disregard of the wife’s feelings” are not legal cruelty; nor is “language of the foulest and most disgraceful description, even infamous language, nor degrading a wife in the eyes of relations and dependents, nor intemperate and most culpable conduct.” Neither is it cruelty for a husband to beat his infant child in his wife’s presence. The sole test of cruelty known to the law is that the wife’s health must be absolutely endangered by the husband’s misconduct. Of her feelings the law takes no cognisance whatever, and yet it is through the feelings that women can be most brutally tortured. At any rate, it is simply barbarous that a husband, by merely refraining from inflicting physical injury on his wife, may legally compel her, against her will, to surrender to him person and property, in defiance even of the commonest and most rudimentary instincts of manliness.

#### A WOMAN SEPARATED FROM HER HUSBAND.

Mr. Thomas Corfield, costermonger, of Islington, has been taught that a wife in England can scarcely any longer be regarded as a “chattel.” Some time ago Mrs. Corfield separated from her husband, for good reasons, and has since maintained herself by selling cut flowers at a stand outside an hotel at Islington. A few days ago the mean rascal whose name she bears “swaggered up to her,” threw her basket of flowers on to the road, where he trampled upon and destroyed them, and declared, in violent language, that he would prevent her getting a living. Fortunately for Mrs. Corfield, the case was taken up by a well-known society under the Married Women’s Property Act, and Mr. Corfield was summoned before the magistrate at Clerkenwell for damaging his wife’s property. He betrayed a not uncommon ignorance of the law, and was confidently of the opinion that a man “could do what he liked with his own.” Mr. Barstow remarked that he was in error, and by way of demonstration sent him to prison for three weeks in default of paying 20s. for the damage to the flowers, a fine of 10s., and 2s. for costs. Mr. Corfield is by this time probably of opinion that the country is seriously in danger.—*Manchester Guardian*, April 4th.

## WAITRESSES.

The Committee of the Society for Promoting the Employment of Women, has just opened a Registry for waitresses at their office, 22, Berners Street. Ladies requiring assistance for afternoon, dinner or evening parties, may there hear of thoroughly respectable women who understand waiting at table and carving.

## WOMEN AND EMIGRATION.

A drawing room meeting in aid of the British Ladies' Female Emigrant Society was held March 31st, at Mrs. Edward Henry Chapman's, 36, Lancaster Gate, the Rev. W. Boyd Carpenter in the chair. The Society was established in March, 1849, for providing matrons, books, and employments for emigrants during their voyage. Its specific objects are to protect female emigrants from the moral dangers incident to a long voyage, and to relieve the weariness of their life on board by furnishing them with useful employment, to procure for them the protection and advice which they may be in need of on arrival at their destination, the efficient visitation of emigrant ships at the various ports of departure, the selection of judicious matrons for the superintendence of the young women on the voyage, and the formation of corresponding societies for their protection and assistance on their arrival. The proceedings having been opened with prayer, Mrs. Chapman explained the circumstances which led to the origin of the organization, and sketched its purposes and aims. She gave an interesting account of the work which had been done, and made a warm and earnest appeal for sympathy and support to enable it to be carried on. Sir Arthur Blyth, K.C.M.G., Agent General for South Australia, in the course of his address, drew attention more particularly to the value and importance of the task assigned to permanent matrons placed in charge of female emigrants on a long voyage, and expressed his obligations to the society for the assistance which it had rendered to him in his official capacity.

THE WOMEN'S EMIGRATION SOCIETY.—(Hon. Sec.

Mrs. W. Browne, 38, Belgrave Road), continues to receive most satisfactory accounts from the ladies it has already assisted to emigrate to New Zealand, Queensland, Canada, &c. Applicants of unimpeachable character and references are numerous, but the loan fund for assisting out emigrants promises to be quickly exhausted, unless friends willing to help struggling women to find a new sphere of work, will come forward. Each emigrant who receives help, signs an undertaking promising to return to the Society the amount granted to her, as soon as she is in a position to do so; and we may mention that the experience of this Society as well as that of the Women's Middle Class Emigration Society, which was established many years ago, shows that this engagement is punctually observed, but owing to the distance to which most of the emigrants have gone, this re-imbursement can only be gradual. Nine emigrants sailed early in March, eight to Queensland, and one to Port Elizabeth. An emigrant ship will sail about the third week in April for North Queensland, and another for Brisbane in May.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

THE LADIES' WORK SOCIETY.—There is just now on view, at 31, Sloane Street, some very good needlework produced under the auspices of the above Society. So many poor women are incompetent to share in the work of education that employment is difficult to find for them. A great deal of energy devoted to this subject has produced a revival of the ancient taste for fine needlework, to the manifest help of many slender purses. Among the objects exhibited are a pianoforte cover embroidered on cream-coloured satin, after an old Spanish design, in blue, yellow, and Venetia red; a screen of cream-coloured silk, designed by the Marchioness of Lorne and worked with azaleas, magnolias, and roses, and a copy of old English needlework done with silk upon linen.

WORKING LADIES' GUILD.—Another branch of this Guild has been made in Northumberland. The *President* is the Duchess of Northumberland; *Treasurer*, Sir W. Armstrong; *Vice-Presidents*, Lady Louisa Hamilton

Lady Ridley, Lady Armstrong, and Mrs. J. B. Cookson, and the *Secretary*, Miss Ryder, 24, St. Mary's Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON March 22nd, the first meeting of the Ladies' Committee of the Domestic Economy Congress was held at the Society of Arts, Adelphi, to discuss the detailed arrangements for holding a congress in the month of June. Among the ladies present were the Countess of Airlie, Lady Arthur Russell, Lady Dorothy Melville, Mrs. Bidder, Mrs. Bartley, Mrs. Buckton, Lady Cole, Lady Bayley, Miss Rose Adams, &c. It was resolved to adopt the provisions of the Education Code for the sections of the Congress, and several ladies were proposed for the various sections. It was resolved to hold weekly meetings until the time of the Congress. Numerous ladies were proposed for election. It was announced that the Princess Louise had joined the vice-presidents.

THE SOMERVILLE CLUB.—A series of lectures and entertainments will be given during the present season to the members of this Club, in the lecture room, at 21, Mortimer Street, W. The principal object of this Club is, as is well known, to promote free discussion on all literary, social, and political subjects among its members.

THE BELFAST LITERARY SOCIETY, founded in 1801, has asked Miss Tod to prepare a paper for them. The subject she has chosen is "Some suggestions for improving the Irish Poor Law." This is the first time they have ever asked a lady. The world moves.

MARRIAGES WITH FRENCH SUBJECTS.—The Right Rev. Monsignor Robertson, of Paris, has brought under the notice of the Roman Catholic authorities in England the fact, that in the proposed amendment of the existing marriage laws in this country, the following grievance has not been brought forward for discussion, viz.—that a marriage contracted out of France, as well as in France, with a French subject, must, in order to be legal, be duly registered and recorded before French authorities. In London, a certificate must be obtained at the French Embassy, or from the French Consul; and ignorance on this subject, or wilful dis-

regard of this law, the Monsignor states, entails much misery, as utter repudiation on the part of the husband often ensues, and for this there is not any redress. The remedy and safeguards suggested is, that the civil certificate of the French authorities should be made a condition of the Church ceremony.

A MEETING was held in Dublin, the other day, for the purpose of forming a Ladies' Association, in connection with the Dublin Sanitary Association, for improving the condition of the homes of the poor of Dublin, and for promotion of health reform among all classes of society. A provisional committee was appointed to prepare rules, and to report at a future meeting.

FIVE ladies, probationers of the Church Deaconess Home, Maidstone, have been admitted to the office of deaconess in the Church of England, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the chapel of Lambeth Palace. One of the newly-appointed deaconesses has accepted work under the Rev. E. S. Woods, Dover, and another under the Rev. Claude Bosanquet, Folkestone.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

"A Twisted Skein," by Esther Ayr.—*Tinsley*.

"Just as I am," by Miss Braddon.—*Maxwell*.

"Our Mary," by Mrs. Gordon Smythe.—*Maxwell*.

"Harry Joscelyn," by Mrs. Oliphant.—*Hurst & Blackett*.

"On the Art of Gardening," by Mrs. F. Foster.—*Tatchell & Co.*

"About the Jews since Bible Times," by Mrs. Magnus.—*Kegan Paul*.

"Policy and Passion," by Mrs. Campbell Praed.—*Bentley*.

"An Unlessoned Girl," by Mrs. Herbert Martins.—*Marcus Ward*.

"The Prophecy of St. Oran," by Mathilde Blind.—*Marcus Ward*.

"The Star of the Fairies," by Mrs. C. W. E. Hope.—*Sampson*

*Low*.

"Lares and Penates," by Mrs. Caddy.—*Chatto & Windus*.

"Chaucer for Schools," by Mrs. Haweis.—*Chatto & Windus*.

"Sanskrit and its kindred Literatures," by Laura Port.—*Kegan*

*Paul*.

"Ladies on Horseback," by Mrs. Power O'Donoghue.—*H. Allen*.

"Love Knots," by Gertude Parsons.—*Hurst & Blackett*.

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## REVIEW.

## THE TRAFFIC IN ENGLISH GIRLS.

The Report of the London Committee for the exposure and suppression of this infamous traffic, has been forwarded to us, and it is necessary to call our readers' attention to it, that, as far as possible, every mother may be warned of the terrible dangers that may await a young girl who takes service abroad. No tempting promises of good wages or social advantages should be suffered to counterbalance the risk. The work of the Committee commenced from very small beginnings: it was at the close of the year 1879 that Mr. A. S. Dyer was informed that a young English girl was confined in a house of infamy in Brussels, and was contemplating suicide as the only means of escape. Through the heroic exertions of the Protestant pastor, Leonard Arnet, of Brussels, she was rescued. A correspondence forthwith arose in the public press—some writers bearing testimony to the existence of a systematic foreign traffic in English girls, and others describing the statements as untrue or sensational. The evidence given at the recent trials in Belgium, permit of no further doubt. In these houses there are girls, not only minors at law, but mere children in age—sixteen, fourteen, twelve, and even ten years of age—who have been decoyed there and kept under lock and key, only occasionally allowed to go out, and always attended by a keeper; beaten and ill-treated if unsubmitive, and kept in a condition of moral and physical bondage, recalling the worst features of American or Spanish slavery.

It is not possible for us to do more than allude to the horrors which this Report contains (to be obtained, price 4d., at Dyer Brothers, 1, Amen Corner, Paternoster Row). It is a pamphlet which women would do well to read carefully. The immediate work of the Society lies with the preservation of English children and girls, but the infamous traffic is by no means confined to them. A recent letter from Marseilles says the traffic is there chiefly in German girls, and one terrible case—in which

the poor child has not yet been recovered—was that of a little Belgian girl, the daughter of an honourable family, who had been decoyed from a boarding school in Brussels by a forged letter purporting to come from her mother.

In a letter addressed by Mrs. Butler to "the mothers of England," she urges forcibly that the work should be international:—

I have no sympathy with those whose just indignation is aroused only for the daughters of England carried off and enslaved in foreign cities, and who would contend with less zeal for the sacred rights of the children of other lands. Childhood and youth have the same high claims upon us throughout the wide world. Moreover, we English cannot afford to reproach foreign nations for allowing our countrywomen to be carried off to foreign slavery, seeing that our laws do less justice to children and young girls than those of almost any country of Europe. It is this fact so well known to the immoral traders which causes our metropolis to be the most favourable field of action for them, and the headquarters of the gang, who thus profit by our defective laws, and who live in the hope that our Parliament will long continue to be as impervious on this subject as it has been in the past.

What these defective laws are the Report shows. The abduction of a girl under twenty-one years of age for an immoral purpose is *felony, provided she is entitled to property*; but if she be not entitled to property, it is a misdemeanour to abduct a girl, only, if she be under the age of sixteen. It thus appears that, by statute law, a penniless girl if abducted or decoyed away, if between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one, is not protected as is a girl who is entitled to property. Further, we are advised, the English law provides no penalty at all for the abduction of a girl under sixteen *if she have neither parent or guardian*. Thus the most helpless orphans are the least protected.

It is incumbent upon women to know these things, that they may themselves protect these helpless children. The statements made in this Report and in the Memorials on this subject, which have been sent in to the Foreign Office, have been most carefully substantiated, and reveal a terrible history of suffering and injustice which should rouse the Christian womanhood of this and other countries to ceaseless and combined effort to remedy.



## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

## FRANCE.

MILLE VERNEUIL, M.D. of the Faculty of Paris, who is described by the French papers as very skilful and charming, has been chosen as manager of a new Convalescent Home, established at Plessis-Lalande, near Villiers-sur-Marne (Seine et Oise).

NORMAL SCHOOL FOR WOMEN.—M. Camille See asked the House of Representatives to grant a wing of the Compiègne Palace for the Normal School for Women. He pointed out that by the law of December 21st, 1880, the secondary education of girls was decreed. The necessary consequence was the creation of a Normal School to prepare women professors. This school might be opened in one of the palaces belonging to the State, of which neither public nor private use was made. If the school was resolved upon, the rules, scholarships, the length and subjects of study, and the examinations, might be regulated by the Council of Public Instruction. The Ministers approved of the proposal to erect a school, but refused to give up Compiègne. It was resolved to transfer the young ladies of the Legion d'Honneur, who are in school at Ecouen, to Saint Denis, and to appropriate the vacated building to the use of the Normal School.

THE Chamber of Deputies has taken into consideration another proposal of M. Camille See, relative to the civil capacity of women.

MADAME LEBRUN, the widow of the poet and academician, has recently died at the great age of 89. The little town of Provins, Seine et Marne, benefits largely under her will. She has bequeathed to it the library of her husband, containing about 6,000 volumes, together with a modest endowment for the library, and a few works of art.

## RUSSIA.

AT the last meeting of the Physicians connected with the Russian lunatic asylum, a lady was elected unanimously an active member of their society. Madame Tarnowski obtained the diploma of doctor in medicine at the St. Petersburg University some time ago, and since entering actively upon her calling, she has exhibited so much skill, power of thought, and success in her treatment of difficult cases in the province of Psychiatry, that she has earned a wide reputation even among specialists. Hence the doctors bravely determined to break through the old traditions and prejudices of their profession, and invite Madame Tarnowski to become an active member of their guild, and assist them in their deliberations. The election has caused a great deal of talk in St. Petersburg, not only amongst the doctors, but in general society, where it is regarded as an ominous sign of the rapid changes which are going on in the intellectual circles of Russia, and which must tell soon upon political circles.—*Echo*.

THE  
ENGLISH WOMAN'S REVIEW.

(NEW SERIES.)

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No. XCVII.—MAY 14TH, 1881.

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ART. I.—THE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD.

THE cause of women's suffrage has lost one of its earliest supporters by the death of the Earl of Beaconsfield. He was the first to mention the subject in the House of Commons. In a discussion on the Reform Bill in 1866, Mr. Disraeli used the following words:—"I say that in a country governed by a woman—where you allow women to form part of the other estate of the realm—peeresses in their own right, for example—where you allow a woman not only to hold land, but to be a lady of the manor and hold legal courts—where a woman by law may be a churchwarden and overseer of the poor—I do not see, where she has so much to do with the State and Church, on what reasons, if you come to right, she has not a right to vote."

Subsequently he recorded his vote in favour of giving the Parliamentary franchise to women, in May, 1871, a second time in April 1873, and continued to support it on every subsequent division while he remained a Member of the House of Commons.

It was well known that during her life Viscountess Beaconsfield gave her cordial approval to this movement. All our contemporaries have united in giving their testimony to the more than ordinarily affectionate relations which existed between the late Earl and Viscountess Beaconsfield. It was that intense affection and personal feeling of all he owed to his late wife which

induced him directly to request the Sovereign to honour his wife whilst she lived, rather than himself. As was written at the time of her death, "It was a pretty sight, that of the remorseless Parliamentary gladiator who neither gave quarter nor asked it, who fought with venomous weapons although he struck fair, and shot barbed darts which clung and rankled in the wounds—it was a pretty sight to see him in the sunshine of domestic life, anticipating the wishes of his wife with feminine tenderness of consideration, and receiving her ministering with the evident enjoyment which is the most delicate flattery of all. The secret of the spell she held him by was a simple one. She loved with her whole heart and soul, she believed in him above all men, and he appreciated at its real worth that simple-minded, self-sacrificing devotion." Though by no means a woman of society, the Viscountess Beaconsfield became a personal friend of her Majesty, and there is no doubt, from the information on the subject which has been received, that the Queen, in declining at the last moment to exercise her right of commanding a public funeral, was influenced by her own memory of the relations existing between the deceased Earl and Viscountess Beaconsfield.

Another paper bears the following testimony:—"Lady Beaconsfield, almost till her last hour, spared her husband all cares connected with daily existence. It was her practice to wade through masses of the papers and ephemeral literature of the day in order to extract all that might interest him. It may truly be said that in each event of life she strove to find something to gratify him. By the exercise of her power of discriminating organisation the household at Hughenden and in Grosvenor Street was maintained on a footing consistent with the dignity of the statesman. She bestowed thought on every detail, and nothing was too minute for her to study if it could contribute to the gratification of him to whom she was a faithful helpmate. When near fourscore years she exerted herself in a manner that might have given a lesson to a woman of thirty."

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## ART. II.—THE RIGHT OF MEETING.

ALTHOUGH English women have still many disabilities to complain of, they have reason to congratulate themselves that they are not born on the other side of the streak of silver sea, for they possess a far greater degree not only of civil but of political liberty than the women subjects (we cannot call them citizens) of the French Republic. An additional proof of the manner in which the French law absolutely ignores the rights of women, as citizens, has been given in the discussion lately held in the Chamber upon the right of organising public meetings. It may not be generally known here that in France women by themselves have not the right to call a meeting, but must obtain the guarantee of men to do so, thus placing themselves under their responsibility. The law declares that a meeting can only be called by citizens having civil and political rights. M. Talandier, one of the deputies from Paris, proposed to omit the words "and political." He observed:—

The amendment I propose is with the object of permitting women themselves to organise meetings or public conferences. Women have no political rights. I do not wish to-day to touch upon this question, but I think we may without danger accord to them the right to make the declaration which the law prescribes without having recourse to some one else to comply with that formality. I do not deny it may in some cases be more convenient to have other persons to undertake the details of the organisation of meetings; but there are ladies who consider it disagreeable not to be able to do without the help of men when they wish to call a conference. I believe the Chamber has never really had the intention to limit the right of meeting to men exclusively, and that it has been by a species of forgetfulness that by introducing the words "and political" into the second paragraph, we have interdicted ladies from the right of calling meetings by themselves making the necessary declaration.

M. Talandier's proposal, however moderate it might be, was rejected.

Another deputy, M. Chevandier, proposed that women and minors should no longer be prohibited from attending electoral meetings. His argument was, to our English ears, full of good sound sense. His words, as reported by the *Droit des Femmes*, were:—

You exclude from electoral meetings young men of 17, 18, or even 20 years of age. To-morrow these young men of 20 will attain their

majority, they will be electors, they will have the right of voting, but if you wish their vote to be enlightened, you must let them come to school at electoral meetings. There they will grow familiar with the subjects which are elucidated, and instructed in the true interests of the State, which they must defend by their votes on attaining their majority.

Women also. You wish to have a republican and democratic nation, and yet you carefully shut the door of electoral meetings to women. Do you forget that mothers are the first to form the minds of their children? Do you not see that if you desire that the unity of the family should not be broken by discussion, it is necessary to mould all the members of the family in the same fashion? If you take no pains to let women come to electoral meetings, you may be quite sure they will bring into the family ideas which they will have gone to seek elsewhere, in places where they are admitted. You know what special doctrines are taught there; doctrines in absolute opposition to those you wish yourselves to teach them.

Under these circumstances, I believe it to be absolutely necessary to open electoral meetings to everybody, unless, if you prefer, in those exceptional cases when a vote has actually to be taken.

His amendment, however, on being put to the vote, was not adopted.

The *Droit des Femmes* reminds us of the time, not so long ago, when M. Gambetta made a special appeal to women to give their help to political men to found the Republic in France, and observes that if statesmen wish for the help of women, they must begin by showing confidence in them, in their patriotism, their heart, and their intelligence. If they do not come to public meetings, they will go to the confessional.

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### ART. III.—MATRONS' AID SOCIETY.

A SOCIETY with a very useful object has been lately established in London with the title of the "Matrons' Aid," or more properly the "Trained Midwives' Registration Society." The importance of this profession in the hands of women, is sufficiently established by the statement of a Committee which in 1869 was appointed by the Council of the Obstetrical Society to investigate the causes of infant mortality; this Committee stated that

out of the 1,250,000 births which annually take place in Great Britain, about 7 out of 10 (and according to another authority 9 out of 10) births were attended by women only. The larger number of these women have received little or no special training; a great many women, who have been educated only as monthly nurses, assume the profession, and if they have good certificates of conduct or capacity from hospitals or physicians, consider themselves exceedingly well qualified for it. Others, it is to be feared, have not even this degree of practical training. At present the only technical instruction obtainable by midwives is that supplied in seven or eight lying-in institutions in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin. These receive midwives for a course of from three to six months, and sometimes grant certificates after an examination. There is no uniform system of training or standard of examination in these institutions, and the number of midwives trained in them annually, hardly exceeds a hundred. The only independent examination and diploma is that granted by the Obstetrical Society of London, 291, Regent Street, but few women comparatively have presented themselves for these examinations. It is difficult we may assume for a large number of women to obtain instruction at all. Under these circumstances it is not strange if the *status* of midwives has sunk into disrepute.

In all countries, save in England, it appears to have been thought necessary to give a good professional training. The first regular French Medical Society, *La confrairie de St. Cosmos et St. Damien*, included within its organisation the Company of Midwives,\* and in this century the names of Madame La Chapelle, and her pupil, Madame Boivin, are well known for their contributions to anatomical science. In Italy, besides the well known examples of Anna Mazzolini, Laura Bassi, and Maria delle Donne, women were in the exclusive scientific practice of midwifery, and one lady particularly, Zaffira Ferretti, who received her medical degree in 1800, held an appointment under the Italian government, and acted as Director-General of the mid-

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\* See Medical Women by Sophia Jex Blake.

wives in all parts of the country. In Germany early in this century, Frau Von Siebold so greatly distinguished herself in the practice of midwifery, that the degree of M.D. was conferred on her by the University of Giessen, and she was spoken of as "one of the first living authorities in her special branch of science." At the present day in France, Germany, Prussia, and Austria, midwives are not allowed to practice without a diploma, attesting at least some degree of skill.

England appears to stand almost alone in the systematic disregard of the education of women in this respect. Some centuries ago their position was very important, and we read of as large a sum as 500 guineas being paid when the midwife had attended upon a royal lady. In the book before quoted, reference is made to a letter written in 1687 by Mrs. Celleor, a fashionable midwife of the reign of James II., saying that "the physitiens and chirurgeons contending about it, midwifery was adjudged a chirurgical operation, and midwives were licensed at Chirurgeon's Hall, but not till they had passed three examinations before six skilful midwives, and as many chirurgeons." It is interesting to observe here that an equal number of women and of men were among the examiners. After 1662, the midwives were referred for their licence to Doctors' Commons, and thus lost their official connection with the medical world. In 1736, a book called "A short account of the state of Midwifery in London," was written by John Douglas, a surgeon, and shows that they had already fallen into disrepute through want of education.

The writer adverts to the accusations of ignorance then brought against the midwives, and remarks that "the only method by which this fatal distemper can be cured, is to put it in the power of midwomen to qualify themselves thoroughly and at a moderate expense. \* \* \* To which method of qualifying themselves I doubt not the midwomen will object, and say that they would readily be at any reasonable expense and fatigue to be so instructed, but it is not in their power. The midwomen cannot, and the midmen will not instruct them. The midmen will object and say that the midwomen want both capacity and strength (instruct them as ye please). To which I reply that it was not want of capacity, docility, strength or activity, which is evident to a demonstration from the successful practice of women in the Hotel Dieu at Paris (the best school for midwifery now in Europe). \* \* \* Would not any person then

be deservedly laughed at who should assert that our women are not as capable of performing their office, had they the same instruction as the French women?" This chivalrous surgeon then proposes that regular provision should be made for proper instruction, and for examination by two surgeons (who have lectured to the women), and six or seven persons appointed by His Majesty, "because I don't think it reasonable that so many people's bread should depend on the humour and caprice of two men only!"

But though nearly 150 years have gone by since this suggestion was made, we find that the practice of the upper branches of the profession have remained almost exclusively in the hands of men, although the poor are obliged to content themselves with uneducated service.

What we should desire to do now is not necessarily to increase the number of women who practise this profession (for an exceedingly large number of women do this already), but to educate them more highly, and so dignify it for themselves and render it less dangerous for the patient. Midwives are employed by the poor in preference to doctors, on account of the extreme cheapness of their terms. In the provinces we are informed the fee is from 4s. to 6s., which includes attendance at birth, washing and dressing the infant, and a visit for the same purpose daily until the fourth day, and afterwards every other day till the eighth. In London the charge for the same duties is 5s. to 7s. So low a scale of charges proves that the average professional skill cannot be high.\*

The *Lancet* a few years ago (1873) advocated the

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\* Even under their present disadvantages, the rate of mortality in cases under the care of women practitioners, compares very favourably with that of patients attended by medical men. The following statistics taken from a memorial addressed to the Local Government Board in 1874, by 42 practising midwives, support this statement:—

The mortality (in childbirth) throughout Great Britain, 1 in 190.

At the Dublin Lying-in Hospital, under medical men, 1 in 132.

British Lying-in Hospital, where doctors are called in when a difficulty occurs, 1 in 388½.

Patients attended by Mrs. Salter, 1 in 1,000.

Patients attended by Manchester midwives, 1 in 750.

Royal Maternity Charity, average for 10 years, 1 in 524 cases. In 1872, the midwives of the Royal Maternity Charity attended 3,666 cases with but 4 deaths.



better education of midwives, not on the ground of the womanliness of such an employment for women, or the better chances it would give to both mother and infant, but almost entirely on the ground of the saving in drudgery it would give to medical men. The argument is worth preserving.

As a matter of fact, a large number of women are attended by midwives, and the practice has a certain sanction from both law and custom. Not only so it is very desirable that medical men should be saved from the drudgery of very cheap midwifery. It is very doubtful, indeed, whether the physical strength of women is equal to the duties of a large obstetric practice. The affirmative view of this question is too readily assumed; but it has to be proved. Be this as it may, a very large midwifery practice is injurious in a high degree to men who have all the other duties of medical practice to do, and it is so especially among the poor, the hygienic condition of whose dwellings terribly enhances the bad effects of loss of sleep and tedious waiting. Sir Robert Christison gave it as the result of his large observation that nothing was more injurious to the health of rural medical men than heavy midwifery duties. Even in the interest of medical men, then, we think it very desirable that women should be educated in the practice of midwifery, and as a matter of prudence and humanity there cannot be any doubt about it.

It is satisfactory to be assured that the medical authorities do not oppose the practice of midwifery by women, *so long as it is badly paid*. One immediate result of raising the education of the practitioners would be that a richer class of women would employ them, till we might hope that in time the profession would return to its original dignity. It is evident that if women of higher social rank and good education would enter upon this calling, they might, by rendering the employment of midwives again popular, really re-open a remunerative employment to women. If the man who caused two blades of corn to grow where only one blade grew before, bereckoned a general benefactor, the woman who can by training put other women into the way of getting 10s., or even £10, where they only before got 5s., may be considered a benefactor to them. In a purely economical aspect, it is well worth the while of any one who enters on this career to obtain the best practical and scientific education.

The first examination of the Obstetrical Society was held in April, 1872. It requires candidates to pass an oral examination upon (1) some portions of elementary

anatomy, (2) the symptoms, natural and abnormal, of the cases which may come before them, together with the management of the patient and her infant, (3) the general conditions of air, food, cleanliness, &c., and lastly the duty with regard to seeking medical advice. Candidates must also submit to the Hon. Sec. of the Society certificates of moral character and of age, and proofs of having attended a course of theoretical teaching approved by the Board, and of possessing a specified amount of practical knowledge, obtained either in a hospital or by a private practice under an approved supervision. On December 20th of that year, the Council of the Obstetrical Association of Midwives addressed a letter to the Royal College of Surgeons, asking them to grant an examination in Midwifery, and a License or Certificate to Midwives. This the Council refused to do, stating that they had no intention of altering their present regulations, which required persons to have been students at a recognised Medical School for four years. No such school was at that time open to women.

In 1874 a Committee of the British Medical Association proposed still further to limit the powers of a Midwife, by punishing her with the removal of her name from the Register if she undertook anything beyond a natural labour. This suggestion, however, was not carried into effect; but a Bill providing for the registration of Midwives by Act of Parliament is under preparation, and will probably soon be introduced. To meet the real demand in great Britain, it is calculated that about 10,000 women are needed.

The Matron's Aid Society, now, proposes to initiate a movement for securing the higher training and registration of a larger number of Midwives in Great Britain. The object of the Association is to promote a thorough training of women as Midwives, to keep a Register, and to offer to those who are thoroughly trained and certificated the advantages of the Association for Mutual Support and Benefit. Members must be over twenty-five years of age, must be of irreproachable character, and must hold the Diploma of the Obstetrical Society. For the first year they are under probation, and when

admitted to full membership, they will have advantages of various kinds, which are detailed in the prospectus, to be obtained of the Secretary.

For the present, the Society for promoting the employment of Women have kindly allowed their Office at 22 Berners Street, W., to be used as the Office of the Matrons' Aid Society; and the Secretary, Miss Gertrude J. King, has undertaken to receive Donations towards the working expenses, and also for the establishment of a Training and Registration Fund for Midwives.

The Hon. Secretaries of the Association are Mrs. Henry Smith, 82, Wimpole Street, and the Editor of *Work and Leisure*, care of Messrs. Hatchard, 187, Piccadilly. The Society can recommend Midwives to attend cases, or to work in country or town districts.

We cordially sympathise with this effort to re-establish a useful and honorable calling for educated women.

We copy from *Work and Leisure* the list of those Midwives who have passed the Examinations and possess the Diploma of the Obstetrical Society:—

1872. April—Alice Vickery, Sarah Louisa Pardoe, Harriett Emma Webb, Jane Ellen Bassett. July—Mary Ann Avenell, Sarah Ford.

1873. January—Anne Thompson, 6, Great Russell Street, Midwife to British Hospital, Endell Street, Bloomsbury; also to the Maternity Charity, Finsbury Square; and private practice. Rebecca Ann Alger Croft, Fanny Hodson, Zepherina P. Veitch. April—Louisa Rayner, Matilda Chaplin-Ayrton (M.D. Paris and Dublin), 98, Palace Gardens Terrace; in practice as Physician and Accoucheuse. July—Caroline Bryan, Maria Rogers, Elizabeth Jane Talbot. October—Lucy Leighton, Mary G. L. Philips.

1874. April—Emily Mary Gregory, Maria Helen Cotton. July—Mary Whittock, Eliza J. M. Mackenzie.

1875. July—Louisa Stephens, Elizabeth Bellby.

1876. January—Louisa Eleanor Davidson. July—Julia Connell, Annie Pogson.

1877. January—Lucy Elizabeth Chaddock. July—Jane E. Hammond, Sarah Seconda Hewlett, Zenana Mission, India; Janet Douglas.

1878. April—Agnes Hutton McMicking, Marian Humfrey. July—Annie Scoon, Henrietta S. Ware. October—Dulcibella S. E. Childers.

1879. January—Fanny Jane Butler, London School of Medicine for Women; Gertrude M. Bradley, Missionary in India; Mary Crawley, Harriett W. Carman. April—Emily Hornby Evans, Lady

Superintendent Maternity Department Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield; Eleanor E. Rust, Sister at Guy's Hospital; Helen Gordon, Lady Superintendent Teignmouth Infirmary; Annie Leach. July—Sarah Kirby, Eliza Stevens, Helen Johnston. October—Mary Hannah Whitfield.

1880. January—Elinor Agnes Bedingfield, Matilda Esther Andrews, Emily Smith Warleigh, Ruth Cumberland, Agnes Macdonald, Elizabeth Winton, Eleanor Warr, Josephine Mabel James. April—Mary L. Pain. July—Mary Bewley, Anne Faulder, Midwife to the Maternity, Jessop Hospital, Sheffield; Mary Carpenter, Isabella Manners, Susan Purton, Sarah Ann Elliott, Frances Sharp. October—Mary Ann Chauney, Frances T. Evans, Emma Hugget, Brighton; Elizabeth Jarvis, Jessop Hospital, Sheffield; Mary A. S. McNaghten, Mary Scott.

1881. January—Louisa Brindley, Chatham; Eliza Chapman, Alice Mary Orr, Brighton; Jane Wilding.

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## REVIEW.

*Preventive Work, or the care of our Girls*, by ELLICE HOPKINS.  
Hatchards, price 6d.

THIS earnest little work contains the sketch of the little which has been done, and the much more which remains to do for the care of friendless girls. "In all our large towns I find a certain number of little girls as much doomed to ruin as if their Chinese mothers had doomed them to it." Sometimes they are children of poor but respectable parents in bad localities, or of widowers, with no mothers to look after them, or of widows who are forced to go out all day charring and washing to win bread for the unprotected little ones at home; or too often of drunken parents who have to roam about the streets at night to escape brutal blows at home. In aid of this numerous host of poor little innocents doomed to degradation for no fault of their own, Miss Hopkins suggests a large increase of systematic industrial and reformatory schools, at present, insufficient for girls, who assuredly need them most. In the London Certified Industrial Schools there are 1,300 boys and but 200 girls. This neglect

is dreadfully unprofitable, even if we take no higher reason than economical grounds; for as a criminal in prison or a poor outcast in workhouse or hospital, a woman will cost the State ten times the sum that would have given her a good industrial training as a child, and made her a useful member of society. "We want," says Miss Hopkins, "a great increase of certified industrial schools for girls, bringing up the number of girls to a fair proportion to the number of boys." "The schools must be certified, as a magistrate can only sentence a child to a certified industrial school. I would ask my readers to keep here clearly in mind the three forms of industrial schools, reformatories, certified industrial schools, responsible to the State and receiving aid from the Consolidated Fund; and private industrial schools responsible only to their subscribers. Reformatories are, at present, only for children convicted of crime—*theft or violence*; not, so far as girls are concerned a very numerous class. . . . Industrial schools may be either private or certified. If certified, the building and regulations must previously be inspected by an officer appointed by the Secretary of State, and the regulations cannot be altered without the alteration being previously submitted to the Home Office, and the school has to undergo an annual inspection. There is often an erroneous impression that a certificated teacher is required, involving large numbers, on the barrack system, to defray the expenses of her salary. But this is not so. The school can appoint its own officers, who may be unpaid ladies, and be left perfectly free, subject to the above slight restrictions. The advantages of being certified are to my mind very great. In the first place you can get a child committed by the magistrate, and the parent is powerless to remove the child or interfere. In the second place, it is a great help to the funds of the school, the State giving two shillings a week, or about five pounds a year for each child; and besides, the magistrate may sentence the parent to pay as much as five shillings a week for the maintenance of the child, in which case, however, the State allowance of two shillings ceases. The principle that bad parents are not to be relieved of

the burden of their children is a most important one to recognise, where its recognition does not involve the sacrifice of the child. Where it does, I allow it is a choice of evils; but surely the least evil is to save the child, who otherwise grows up to be a bad parent in her turn, and the evil becomes circular and endless. Thirdly, there is the advantage of the regular inspection and the criticism from without, which is so important an element in turning out good work."

Miss Hopkins strongly insists that schools should be small. Twenty to thirty in one school are enough, and she prefers the family notion of ten to twenty as at Ilford or Addlestone. She suggests that the children should be taught the duties of servants by little trial trips into carefully chosen families in the neighbourhood, and thinks that many ladies might be found who would give personal superintendence and motherly care to the training of one or two little girls as domestic servants.

Passing on to older girls, Miss Hopkins notices the admirable Free Registry Office and Clothing Club, originally set on foot by Miss Stephens in Bristol. Besides the Registry Office, there is a Home for the use of any girl who may be out of place. The matron helps the girls to cut out and make their clothes, for which they pay by instalments as they receive their wages, and thus a salutary communication is kept up with them. The individual influence of some lady is brought to bear upon each girl, who feels that she has a friend to whom she may come or write for advice or help at need. This principle is the same as that of the Metropolitan Association for befriending young servants, and The Girls' Friendly Society, and might be established in every town large or small, but the Preventive Registry Offices obviously must take a much lower class of girls with doubtful antecedents while the two others rightly stipulate for a good character as a necessary requirement before entrance.

Other preventive efforts are needed for the rough factory girls in our large manufacturing towns, and this has been as yet hardly attempted. "Many of these girls have a corner of a bed-room in a strange house where they are neither wanted nor missed, or two or

three will club together to hire a bed-room between them. They have two or three hours in the evening when they are their own mistresses and can do what they like, and their only sitting-room is the gin palace, the music hall, the penny gaff, and the dancing room." Respectable associated lodgings under the superintendence of an older woman, are in these cases very important, and might be made self-supporting in manufacturing towns where female work is fairly remunerated, but some place like a club-room where they may spend the evening respectably and happily, is essential. The club-rooms should be made as bright and attractive as possible, with pictures and a few pretty tasteful things, and comfortable chairs. If possible, they should be near the factory "so as to afford factory girls a respectable place in which to eat their dinners, and thus remedy that melancholy piece of male legislation for the health and welfare of women, which provides that women should not take their meals in their workrooms, but does not enforce the provision of decent dining-rooms, when, by the operation of this thoughtful Act, they are turned out into the streets with no where to go to for their next meal, but a distant home or a near public house." In connection with the Club, classes for singing, sewing, and drawing, and games of all kinds, might be introduced, and would, well-managed, make the Institution popular and double its utility. A frequent objection made to girls' clubs is, that it is not wise to bring girls out at night, but in these cases, we must, Miss Hopkins observes, work with the materials in hand—the girls are independent and uncontrollable, the evening is their sole time for recreation, out at night they will be, and if not for evil, then for good. "Here again I plead for the scientific spirit which does not occupy itself with theories and abstract ideas, but just concerns itself with the patient observation of facts and conditions, and then endeavours to control by obeying them. 'To empty by filling,' must be permanently our motto with our working girls, not negative restrictions, but position, influences—the old low thoughts and ways and desires passing away, as the higher aims, higher loves, higher amusements, and higher interests, flow in."

There is very much more we should like to quote from this little book regarding emigration for deserted children into safe and happy homes beyond seas, or mothers' meetings in which some of the difficulties which poor and hard-working women find in bringing up a large family decently and respectably, might be discussed, and hints given on both sides, for the better carrying on of the work; but we have already exceeded our space. We have quoted enough to show how every effort in this preventive work is necessary and may work together for good, and what a large harvest is waiting, for hands to come and reap it.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### LONDON UNIVERSITY.

May 11th was presentation day at the University of London, when the certificates of degrees and honours won by the successful students at the late examinations were distributed. It was the first time in the history of the University that degrees have been conferred upon women. On this occasion four ladies received the B.A. degree, three, certificates of matriculation, and one a prize for French in the first B.A. In the course of his remarks, Earl Granville, who presided, warmly congratulated the ladies on their success: "No less," he said, "than four ladies, two in the first and two in the second division, had that day become graduates of the University, and he believed from certain signs which had been given that day, that the infusion of feminine graduates would add to the utility, as it had certainly done to the grace, of their proceedings."

The agenda paper of the Convocation of the University, which met in the evening, consisted of some dozen motions and resolutions. After four of these had been dealt with, it was agreed to go on to the tenth, in which it was moved by Mr. A. P. Hensman—"That it



is just and desirable that women who are graduates of this University, and of the requisite standing, should be entitled to become members of the Convocation, and to vote at the election of the member of Parliament of the University." As an amendment to this resolution, the following was moved by Mr. A. M'Dowell:—"That female graduates be admitted to Convocation." These matters, however, were too important to be settled by a discussion off-hand, and the adjournment of the debate until the January meeting of Convocation, was adopted on the motion of Mr. Thomas Tyler. A motion for the adjournment of the House was then carried.

#### CAMBRIDGE.

GIRTON.—The Classical Foundation Scholarship of the value of £80 a year for four years, has been awarded to Miss Janet Case, who took the second place in the recent examination. The examination was held in London, Manchester, and Edinburgh, on the 8th of March, and three following days. The first place had been taken by Miss Elizabeth A. S. Dawes, daughter of the Rev. J. S. Dawes, D.D., Newton House, Surbiton, but as she was not yet eighteen years old, the usual age of admission to the college, the committee did not award her the scholarship. Her extreme youth makes her honourable place still more creditable.

The scholarships of £60 and of £45 a year for three years, were awarded upon the general result of the entrance examination to Miss M. Vinter and Miss A. Taylor respectively.

At the recent examinations for the Classical Tripos, Miss Gell attained the standard of the 3rd class, and Miss E. A. Harrison, that of the ordinary degree.

NEWNHAM.—"At Newnham College, Miss Harland is lecturing on Euclid and Algebra, and Miss Scott on Analytical Conics. Mr. Garnet lectures on Statics and on Experimental Physics, Mr. Hudson on Arithmetic and on the Differential Calculus, Mr. Hillhouse on Botany, while Miss Cross superintends practical and paper work in Chemistry and Geology."—*Nature*.

ST. ANDREW'S UNIVERSITY.—The LL.A. women's examination in connection with St. Andrew's Univer-

sity was held simultaneously in St. Andrew's, London, Halifax, and Bristol. One hundred and seventy-five candidates entered, being nearly double the number that entered last year. The results have been issued recently. Thirty-three ladies have passed the necessary examinations, and are entitled to the title of LL.A., while the larger proportion of candidates have been successful in one or more subjects. The scheme is being gradually developed. In 1877, when it was started, nine candidates appeared; in the following year, 32; in 1879, 72; last year, 92; and this year, 175 entered. The number of centres have been increased this year by the addition of Bristol, and next year Belfast will be added. More women students have come up for examination in 1881 than there were art students matriculated at the University last session, and in a very important sense these 175 LL.A. candidates may be regarded as a virtual addition to the roll of students at the University of St. Andrew's. After 1883, no candidate will be admitted to the St. Andrew's LL.A. examination who does not hold the local examination of a university. Correspondence classes to prepare candidates for these examinations will be resumed on October 1st, 1881. Full particulars may be obtained from Miss Walker, Secretary, 39, Gillespie Crescent, Edinburgh, or at St. George's Hall, Randolph Place.

#### EDINBURGH.

EDINBURGH.—In consequence of the recent decision of the Cambridge University authorities, Professor Masson has given notice of a motion asking the Senatus of the Edinburgh University to reconsider their position in regard to the University education of women.

#### THE ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

The following is the scheme for the organisation of the University, as proposed by the Committee appointed for that purpose by the Senate:—

#### DEGREES.

The University shall confer the following degrees:—

ARTS.—Bachelor of Arts, B.A.; Master of Arts, M.A.

SCIENCE.—Doctor of Science, D.Sc.

ENGINEERING.—Bachelor of Engineering, B.E.; Master of Engineering, M.E.

MUSIC.—Bachelor of Music, B.Mus.; Doctor of Music, D.Mus.

MEDICINE.—Bachelor of Medicine, M.B.; Doctor of Medicine, M.D.

SURGERY.—Master of Chirurgery, M.Ch.; in Obstetrics, a special diploma.

LAW.—Bachelor of Laws, LL.B.; Doctor of Laws, LL.D.

All degrees in this University are open to persons of either sex. The examinations for women shall be held apart from those of men, but upon the same days.

The DUBLIN UNIVERSITY examinations for women commenced on April 5th, and continued till the 13th. In the Dublin centre there were ninety-four entries in all; of these forty-six were Juniors, nineteen were Seniors, and the remainder Intermediates, and candidates for special certificates. These examinations were instituted in 1870.

#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, BRISTOL.

This College is now in its fifth year, and statistics show that no similar College in England has made so much progress in so short a time; but its financial position does not compare favourably with those of other Colleges. Colleges for the higher education of adults are never maintained from the fees of the students alone; they depend on external support, which on the Continent is given liberally by Government, and in England must be sought by voluntary contributions, or from endowments. Thus, Oxford and Cambridge together have, independently of their buildings and the fees paid by students, a net income of more than £500,000 a year. The working expenses of Bristol College amount to £4500 a year, of which only about £1800 are supplied by students, and its endowments are very few.

A Ladies' Committee has been formed, with the object of assisting the Council of this College in their endeavours to raise the necessary funds for it, by

making a special appeal to those who recognize the importance of enabling women to carry on their education after the ordinary school age. It must be remembered that women are more dependent than men on the instruction given in local Colleges, because it is less easy for them than it is for men to leave their homes. This College has the merit of being the first in which the higher education of women has been conducted on a large scale side by side with that of men; it has no less than two hundred women among its students, a number which is not approached by any other local College. For these reasons the Committee feel confidence in appealing to the generosity of all who are interested in the higher education of women.

#### CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE.

A correspondent says: "We are glad to observe that with a wise liberality the classes and all-important laboratory practice, which the City and Guilds of London Institute have inaugurated in Cowper Street, Finsbury, are open to girls and women as well as to boys and men. We have no doubt that advantage will gradually be taken of this opportunity for instruction, and as women see the absolute necessity, if they wish to succeed, of thoroughly knowing the principles of science, these classes will be largely attended by them. We do not expect at once a rush of ladies to this new source of sound learning, but we sincerely trust that the numbers will be ever on the increase. It is possibly a knowledge of the ignorance of first principles in female operators, which has induced our contemporary, *The Electrician*, to make so poor and conventional a jest as it does in the following paragraph: 'The celerity in switching, for which praise is given to the Glasgow Telephonic Exchange is said to be in a measure due to the presence of mirrors in the panelling of the switch boards, a device which effectually prevents the eyes of the young lady operators from wandering off the boards for more than two seconds together all the time they are on duty. Falling discs are consequently instantly seen and attended to.' Instead of making such feeble jokes in such poor English, it would

have been better to tell us about these lectures for girls. Did the girls in the Telegraph Department but thoroughly understand their machines, we see no reason why they should not patent improvements, and thus add largely to their incomes. So long, however, as they are content to be mere manipulators, forming hardly more than a part of a machine, they cannot expect the high wages of a skilled mechanic."

The day classes would be of service to girls who have not the means to obtain a Girton or Newnham education, while the evening classes will be of great use to those women who take more than a mechanical interest in their daily work, for by such instruction and their own practice in the laboratory, they might gain such a thorough knowledge of principles as should distinguish a skilled workwoman from a mere machine.

A BILL has been brought in by Professor Bryce, M.P. for the Town Hamlets, to provide for the better application and management of the Parochial charities of the City of London. One of its clauses specially deserves our attention. It is that "in making schemes for the application of any charity property or endowments to educational purposes, the Commissioners shall have regard to the educational interests of girls as well as of boys." Hitherto the endowed schools commission has done but little for girls in its schemes, and the disproportion between educational endowments existing on their behalf, and for boys, remains nearly as great as ever.

#### POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

CARDIFF.—Miss Jenner was elected for St. Mary's, Cardiff. She polled over 900 votes.

BRIDGWATER.—Miss Spiller has been elected a Member of the Board of Guardians; she was one of the seven representatives. Unfortunately, she was abroad at the time of her nomination, and was unaware of it, and has since withdrawn, as she had no intention of serving. We cannot protest too strongly against the practice which we have had to record occasionally of nominating persons in their absence, and without their consent. It is unpleasant to the candidate, who may

not be able from circumstances or disposition, to take the part assigned him or her, and disappointing to the voters who have carried through a successful election.

LEICESTER.—Miss Gill received 320 votes in St. Martin's Ward. Though this number was not sufficient to elect her, the lowest elected candidate having 444, it is considered a satisfactory result as it is the first time any lady has been nominated in this capacity in Leicester.

BIDDINGTON.—In our last number we recorded the election of Mrs. M'Iluham for Biddington. The *Suffrage Journal* observes :

The election of the last-named lady is of special significance, as it directly challenges the correctness of the prevailing belief that the nomination of a married woman as guardian is illegal. Mrs. M'Iluham has, we understand, property in her own right to the amount of the rating qualification; and she was nominated for election by her own husband, also a ratepayer. The clerk of the union, although he distinctly refused to allow Mrs. M'Iluham's right to vote in the election as owner of the property for which she was rated because she was a married woman, raised no objection to her nomination as a candidate. Since the election Mrs. M'Iluham has taken her seat at the Tewkesbury Board of Guardians without comment or objection from anyone. It remains to be seen whether any objector will come forward to challenge the legality of the act, and what would be the result of the challenge if it should be made, which seems highly improbable.

SCHOOL BOARD, WOLVERHAMPTON.—The Wolverhampton School Board held a meeting on May 6th, to fill a vacancy. The Chairman (the rector of the Collegiate Church), proposed the election of Miss Amy Mander. There were, he said, 75 female teachers in the Board's employ, and for their sakes it was desirable that the Board should have a lady Member. The Vice Chairman (a Nonconformist) seconded the motion, which was passed. Two Members—a clergyman and a Roman Catholic priest—refused to vote.—*Manchester Guardian*.

A LADY AS SURVEYOR OF ROADS.—Miss Mary Ann Turner was a few years ago Overseer of the Highways in the township of Matley, Cheshire, paying wages and superintending the workmen herself. At the end of the year she had not spent more money than former overseers, and had put the portion of road under her care into thoroughly good condition.—*Suffrage Journal*.

**MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE SCOTLAND BILL.**

On May 6th, on the motion of the Earl of Camperdown, this Bill of which the object is to assimilate the municipal franchise in Scotland to that of England with regard to the voting of women, was read a second time in the House of Lords.

**SUFFRAGE.**

Mr. Hugh Mason has obtained Friday, May 27th, for his Resolution. Friends are earnestly entreated to send in their petitions before that time, and to write to their Members entreating them to be in their places to vote for the Resolution.

A meeting will be held in the afternoon of Tuesday, May 24th, in the Westminster Palace Hotel. Mrs. Duncan McLaren has consented to preside. Tickets can be obtained at the Office, 64, Berners Street, W.

The number of petitions sent in up to May 3rd, was 164, with 6,500 signatures.

**MEDICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN.**

FOUR ladies have lately passed the examination of the King's and Queen's College of Physicians of Ireland and obtained its diploma. These are—

Miss EDITH SHOVE, Demonstrator of Anatomy at the London School of Medicine for Women; she passed the passed the first M.B. examination of London University last July.

Mrs. MEARS, late Natural Science Scholar at the London School of Medicine.

Miss HOPE ADAMS (M.D. Berne).

Miss MARSTON, who has been entirely educated at the London Medical School for Women, and is now going as a medical missionary to India.

**LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.**—The annual distribution of prizes to the successful students at the London School of Medicine for Women, Henrietta Street, Brunswick Square, took place on May 11th, under the presidency of Viscountess Harberton. The proceedings were commenced by the reading of the report by the Dean. This stated that up to the present 86 pupils had been received, of whom 44 are now attending. Nine of these were studying for the University of London, four were amateurs, and the remaining 31

were training for examination by the College of Physicians in Ireland. Altogether 25 ladies had now been declared qualified to practise. The report of the treasurer, the Right Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P., stated that the expenditure had been £2,018, of which one-half had been provided by the students' fees. The subscriptions had been £626 17s. 6d., as against £723 15s. 6d. last year; and the donations £33 2s., as against £18. There had been several large legacies realised, amongst them one of £4,050 from Mrs. George Oakes. Viscountess Harberton, before distributing the prizes, said she was glad to see opinion in England was coming round on the subject of lady doctors. It was not now necessary for women to go to Paris or Vienna to obtain degrees. She had noticed, however, that although many men now admitted that the learned professions should be thrown open to women, they always excepted their own profession. Thus a doctor thought ladies might well become lawyers, while the latter saw no harm in their becoming doctors. Among the prizetakers were Mrs. Swaagman, Mrs. Dowson, Miss Harris, Miss Prideaux, Miss Toms, Miss Morice, and Miss Cock. The entrance scholarship was taken by Miss Toms. The Lord Advocate of Scotland, in moving a resolution congratulating the school on its progress, said that he was glad to find the University of London following the example set to it in Dublin, and he predicted that other universities would soon have to follow in their wake. The resolution was seconded by Dr. Elizabeth Dunbar and carried unanimously. A vote of thanks to Viscountess Harberton concluded the proceedings.

#### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY (SCOTLAND) BILL.

On the motion to consider this Bill as amended.

Sir G. Campbell objected to its being proceeded with at a late hour. It was true it had been revised by a Committee, but the Committee was practically a Committee of Women's Rights men.

Mr. Anderson said the Committee on the whole might rather be considered as a hostile Committee. The Bill



had been moulded according to the opinions of the Lord Advocate, the Solicitor-General for Scotland, and the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, and other lawyers. It was a moderate and mild measure.

The House divided—

For the consideration of the Bill... .. 69

Against ... .. 19

The Bill was therefore advanced a stage. The third reading took place a few days later.

#### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY BILL (ENGLAND).

This Bill, of which—as amended by the Select Committee—we subjoin a copy, stood “committed” for April 26th, but was not recorded that day, when the contention as to the right of Mr. Bradlaugh to take the oath, occupied the House till nearly two in the morning.

The Bill cannot come on after half-past twelve o'clock at night, because of the rule which forbids opposed business to be taken after that hour, the member who “opposes” being Mr. Warton, M.P. for Bridport, who has taken the same means of stopping the progress of fourteen or fifteen other Bills.

The Married Women's Property Bill has, therefore, now been put down for Committee for Tuesday, May 24th, when, as it is the second order of the day, and only preceded by three notices of motion, it has a fair chance of being reached. A measure, however, which appeals to no party interest, and which specially affects those who are unrepresented in the House of Commons, is always liable to the risks of a “count-out,” a misfortune which Mr. Hinde Palmer, when in charge of the Bill eight years ago, suffered six times in a single session.

The best way to prevent this, and to secure the consideration and further progress of the measure is, that every person, man or woman, who is interested in this reform, should assist, by writing *before* the 24th inst. to each M.P. whom he can influence, and more particularly to the Member or Members for his own constituency, begging each of them to be in his place on the 24th inst., in order to make and keep a House for the consideration of the long delayed and most important Married Women's Property Bill.

N.B.—All friends who have in hand petitions to the House of Commons or to the House of Lords in support of the Married Women's Property Bill, are requested to forward them for presentation as soon as convenient. Should the Bill pass through Committee on the 24th inst., it may go up to the House of Lords at a very early date, and will not probably occupy their lordships more than a week or ten days.

**A BILL TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE ACTS RELATING TO THE PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN, AS AMENDED BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE.**

Whereas it is expedient to consolidate and amend the Act of the thirty-third and thirty-fourth Victoria, chapter ninety-three, intitled "The Married Women's Property Act, 1870," and the Act of the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth Victoria, chapter fifty, intitled "An Act to amend the Married Women's Property Act (1870)";

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

1. (1) A married woman shall be capable of acquiring, holding, and disposing of any real or personal property as her separate property, without the intervention of any trustee.

(2) A married woman shall be capable of entering into and rendering herself liable on any contract, and of suing and being sued, either in contract or in tort, or otherwise, in all respects as if she were a feme sole, and her husband need not be joined with her as plaintiff or defendant, or be made a party to any action or other legal proceeding.

(3) Every contract entered into by a married woman shall be deemed to be a contract entered into by her with respect to her separate property, unless the contrary be shown.

(4) Every married woman carrying on a separate trade shall be subject to the bankruptcy laws in the same way as if she were a feme sole.

2. Every woman who marries after the commencement of this Act shall be entitled to have and hold as her separate property all real and personal property which shall belong to her at the time of marriage, or shall be acquired by or devolve upon her after marriage including any wages, earnings, money, and property gained or acquired by her in any employment, trade, or occupation, or by the exercise of any literary, artistic, or scientific skill.

3. Every woman married before the commencement of this Act shall be entitled to have and hold as her separate property all real and personal property, her title to which, whether vested or contingent, and whether in possession, reversion, or remainder, shall accrue after the commencement of this Act, including any wages,

earnings, money, and property so gained or acquired by her as aforesaid.

4. All deposits, annuities, and sums forming part of the public stocks, or funds, which at the commencement of this Act are standing in the name of a married woman, and to which she is entitled, and all shares, stock, debentures, debenture stock, or other interests in any company or society which at the commencement of this Act are standing in her name, and to which she is entitled, shall be deemed to be the separate property of such married woman; and the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, the Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland, and all directors, managers, and trustees of every company, society, and savings bank shall, on the application of such married woman, and on sufficient evidence of her title being produced, take notice thereof and act accordingly.

5. All sums forming part of the public stocks or funds, and all shares, stock, debentures, debenture stock, and other interests in any company or society which after the commencement of this Act shall be allotted to or placed, registered, or transferred in or into the name of any married woman shall be deemed to be her separate property, whether the same shall be so expressed in the document whereby her title to the same is created or certified, or in the books or register wherein her title is entered or recorded, or not.

6. It shall not be necessary for the husband of any married woman to join in the transfer of any sums forming part of the public stocks or funds in the books of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England or the Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland, or any shares, stock, debentures, debenture stock, or other interests in any company or society, or any deposits in any bank which are now or shall at any time hereafter be standing in the joint names of such married woman and any other person or persons not being her husband.

7. Every woman, whether married before or after this Act, shall have in her own name the same remedies, both civil and criminal, against all persons whomsoever, including her husband, for the protection and security of her own separate property, as if such property belonged to her as a feme sole, but, except as aforesaid, no husband or wife shall be entitled to sue the other for a tort. In any indictment or other proceeding it shall be sufficient to allege such property to be her property; and in any proceeding under this section a husband or wife shall be competent to give evidence against each other, any statute or rule, either of law or of practice, to the contrary notwithstanding.

8. A husband shall not be liable for the debts of his wife contracted before marriage except to the extent of any property whatsoever belonging to his wife which he shall have acquired or become entitled to from or through his wife; and any court in which a husband shall be sued for any such debt shall have power to direct any inquiry or proceedings which it may think proper for the purpose of ascertaining the nature, amount, or value, of such property.

9. No husband shall by reason of the marriage be liable in

damages for any wrong committed by his wife except for wrongs committed by her before marriage, to the same extent as he is hereinbefore made liable for debts of his wife contracted before marriage.

10. In any question between husband and wife as to the title to or possession of property, either party may apply by summons or otherwise in a summary way to any judge of the High Court of Justice in England or in Ireland, according as such property is in England or Ireland, or (at the option of the applicant irrespectively of the value of the property in dispute) in England to the Judge of the County Court of the district, or in Ireland to the chairman of the Civil Bill Court of the division in which either party resides, and the judge of the High Court of Justice or of the County Court, or the Chairman of the Civil Bill Court (as the case may be) may make such order with respect to the property in dispute, and as to the costs of and consequent on the application as he thinks fit, or may direct such application to stand over from time to time, and any inquiry touching the matters in question to be made in such manner as he shall think fit: Provided always, that any order of a judge of the High Court of Justice to be made under the provisions of this section shall be subject to appeal in the same way as an order made by the same judge in a suit pending in the said court would be; and any order of a County or Civil Bill Court under the provisions of this section shall be subject to appeal in the same way as any other order made by the same court would be: Provided also, that the judge of the High Court of Justice or of the County Court, or the chairman of the Civil Bill Court, if either party so require, may hear such application in his private room.

11. Nothing in this Act contained shall interfere with or affect any settlement or agreement for a settlement made or to be made, whether before or after marriage, respecting the property of any married woman, or shall interfere with or render inoperative any restriction against anticipation at present attached or to be hereafter attached to the enjoyment of any property or income by a woman under any settlement, agreement for a settlement, will, or other instrument; but no restriction against anticipation contained in any settlement or agreement for a settlement of a woman's own property to be made or entered into by herself shall have any validity against debts contracted by her before marriage, and no settlement or agreement for a settlement shall have any greater force or validity against creditors of such woman than a like settlement or agreement for a settlement made or entered into by a man would have against his creditors.

12. Where in England the husband of any woman having separate property becomes chargeable to any union or parish, the justices having jurisdiction in such union or parish may, in petty sessions assembled, upon application of the guardians of the poor, issue a summons against the wife, and make and enforce such order against her for the maintenance of her husband as by the thirty-third section of the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1868, they may now make and enforce against a husband for the maintenance of his wife if she becomes chargeable to any union or parish. Where in Ireland

relief is given under the provisions of the Acts relating to the relief of the destitute poor to the husband of any woman having separate property, the cost price of such relief is hereby declared to be a loan from the guardians of the union in which the same shall be given, and shall be recoverable from such woman as if she were a feme sole by the same actions and proceedings as money lent.

13. A married woman having separate property shall be subject to all such liability for the maintenance of her children as a widow is now by law subject to for the maintenance of her children: Provided always, that nothing in this Act shall relieve her husband from any liability imposed upon him by law to maintain her children.

14. The "Married Women's Property Act, 1870," and the "Married Women's Property Act, 1870, Amendment Act, 1874," are hereby repealed: Provided that such repeal shall not affect any act done or right acquired while either of such acts was in force.

15. The date of the commencement of this Act shall be the first of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

16. This Act shall not extend to Scotland.

17. This Act may be cited as the "Married Women's Property Act, 1881."

#### SOME CASES AFFECTING MARRIED WOMEN.

In the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, on April 26th, the case of *Fulcher v. Fulcher* was heard. This was an action by a lady against the representatives of her third husband (two of his sons by a former marriage) to enforce an alleged parol agreement by him that she should have power over the whole of her property. The plaintiff was married to her first husband, Mr. Newman, in 1829. He died in 1832. She was married to her second husband, Mr. Lodge, in the year 1834. He died in 1864, leaving her a considerable fortune. She had one daughter by her first marriage, now Mrs. Wallis, who has several children. Her only child by her second husband died in childhood. She married her third husband in the year 1877. She was then seventy-two years of age, and he was fifty-four. He died in April of last year. He had settled some portion of his wife's property on her daughter and grandchildren in his lifetime, but had left the larger part by will for the benefit of his own children. This was stated to amount to over £40,000. The present application was a motion to restrain the defendants from dealing with that part of the deceased's property which had belonged to the plaintiff and for the appoint-

ment of a receiver. It was supported by affidavits by herself, her daughter, and one of her grandsons, aged twenty-four. She affirmed that she was illiterate, and that many times before marriage her late husband had stated that she should have as full control over her property as if a settlement had been made, and as if she had not been married to him, and that she should receive her own dividends and incomes, and should have the absolute disposal of the whole of her property, and should be able to give it or leave it by will to her daughter, Ellen Wallis, and her children, or otherwise among her own family.

Mr. North, Q.C., and Mr. George Harris Lee appeared in support of the motion; Mr. Glasse, Q.C., and Mr. Giffard in opposition, but were not called on by

His Lordship, who considered the evidence rather showed that there had been no intention of making anything like a settlement; that the deceased had received his wife's property into possession, and there had been no assertion of her right during the marriage, a period of nearly three years; but, on the contrary, when her daughter and grandchild applied to him, he had insisted that the property was absolutely his, and they had to look for his bounty. Considering therefore, the improbability of the plaintiff's getting the relief she asked at the hearing, he could not grant the injunction, or interfere in the present stage of the action with the defendant's control over the property — *Times*.

GIFTS TO A WIFE BY HER HUSBAND.—A curious case, illustrating this singular state of the law was decided before Vice-Chancellor Hall on April 3rd, in *re Breton v. Wolven*. The question that arose in this case was whether certain plate and furniture which the testator Frederick Breton, had in his lifetime purchased for his wife belonged to her, for her separate use. The testator had written and signed three memoranda or notes as to this plate and furniture, by the first of which he had certified that he had "given" a part of the furniture to his wife "for her own use and benefit;" by the second he stated that "he made a present to her" of the plate, "for her sole use and benefit;" by the third he stated that he "presented her

Honour said he was of opinion that there must be a verdict for the plaintiff. There was in his view a distinct agreement to make some settlement, which was "to keep things right," and it had been clearly shown that it was to be a settlement of the wife's property, and that she did not ask her husband to make a settlement of any property which belonged to him. He was satisfied that the parties understood the document when it was read over by the solicitor—at any rate, that they understood that the wife was to have complete control over the property. As to cancelling the agreement, he held that it was not in the power of Mrs. Swan to cancel it, and that her daughter's children, who were co-plaintiffs, could have enforced it. The agreement must be specifically performed, and judgment was given accordingly.

This decision shows the advantage of having a definite agreement before marriage, as long as the law is in its present condition.

### EMPLOYMENT.

The Annual Meeting of the Society for the Employment of Women took place on May 13th, at 22, Berners street, W. The chair was taken by Lord Shaftesbury who has always proved himself a kind and consistent friend to the movement.

The Annual Report of the Society gives a good account of the Wood Engraving School, 122, Kennington Park Road. It is in full working order. Thirteen students are attending the classes, and Mr. Roberts expresses himself as well satisfied with the progress they are making. Some, indeed, show considerable aptitude, and have already done a little work for publication, though three or four years of persevering study are necessary before any great proficiency in the art can be acquired.

The National School of Wood Carving at the Albert Hall, Kensington, continues to work steadily and the pupils are making good progress.

TELEPHONY.—The Report says that the use of the telephone for business purposes in London affords excellent employment for the daughters of professional men who have not had the advantage of a high education, and who are often left without adequate provision. Telephone clerks must be intelligent, accurate, and very careful; they must speak with clear articulation, and must see and hear well, but no great amount of education is essential. The salary of a competent telephone clerk commences at £32 10s. Private introduction is

necessary for admission to this industry. Between 30 and 40 ladies are at present engaged on telephone work in London, of whom 22 have been introduced by the Society.

THE HALF PAY OF MARRIED OFFICERS IN THE ARMY.

*To the Editor of the Daily Chronicle.*

SIR,—The public generally cannot be aware of the fact that the authorities at the War Office allow an officer in the Army, married or single, to sell his half-pay for a round sum of money, and thereby, in the event of the wife surviving, leaving her penniless and destitute. Under the late Government the authorities of the War Office allowed my brother-in-law, a major in the Army of distinguished military services in the Indian Mutiny and elsewhere, to sell his half-pay, although his wife had previously represented and earnestly protested against such injustice and inhumanity, and stating at the same time that in the event of her surviving him she would, in consequence, be left totally destitute. I beg to state that the major died last year, and his widow is now starving.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

AUGUSTUS J. HARVEY, F.R.G.S.

Great Yarmouth, April 2.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF FOOD PRODUCTION by Women met on the 11th inst. A report was read, showing that much interest in the subject prevailed in all parts of the country, and reference was made to the Horticultural Classes now being organised at the Crystal Palace, to some of which ladies will be admitted; and to the proposal of the Dairykeepers' Association to found a school for dairy work. A list of ladies desiring to take boarders to instruct in gardening, dairy work, poultry rearing, &c. was read, and, after a short discussion, it was decided that for the present it was desirable to extend this list by advertising for teachers and pupils, and thus to promote the second of the objects of the Association, *i.e.* that of acting as a means of communication between those who are able to teach, and those who are willing to work and learn. Communications should be addressed, Hon. Sec., Southsea Grange, Lewes, Sussex.



## TRAFFIC IN GIRLS.

On April 28th Mr. M'COAN asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been called to the existence of an established traffic in girls under age for immoral purposes between London and the Continent, and if he intended to take any, and what, steps to put an end to it; whether it was true that the Belgian authorities had vainly applied to the Home Office for the extradition of a man named Marx, alias Fredericks, alias Schultz, a Belgian subject, said to be well-known to the police as an active London agent for such traffic; and whether he would lay upon the table of the House any report from the Chief of the Criminal Investigation Department on the subject.

Mr. COURTNEY said a member of the English Bar, Mr. Snagge, had been sent to Brussels to inquire into the truth of the allegations made on this subject, and to watch the trial, which resulted in sentences of various terms of imprisonment. One of the principal delinquents had escaped to France, where he would be tried. The same gentleman had been requested to attend that trial. Mr. Snagge would submit a report at the conclusion of his inquiry, and the Home Secretary would consider whether it should be laid on the table of the House, and what action should be taken upon it.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Bishop Claughton presided, on the 23rd of April, at the quarterly meeting of the Council of the Association of the Mission for the English Poor, founded in Paris eight years ago by Miss Leigh. This excellent institution now comprises a home for governesses and artists, sanatorium, Christian association, orphanage, soup kitchen, night schools, temperance union, &c., and is carried on by the vigorous and self-denying labours of a large band of voluntary lady helpers.

COLOUR BLINDNESS.—The report of the Committee appointed by the Ophthalmological Society to collect statistics of colour-blindness, presents some curious points according to the *Lancet*. The Committee have examined 18,088 persons of all classes, of whom 1,657 were women. While the average percentage of colour

defects among men is 4·76, and 3·5 for very pronounced defects, it falls in women to the low figure of 0·4. This, if true, suggests the special fitness of women for many new spheres of employment. If they are comparatively free from colour-blindness, they could undertake many of the less laborious occupations in which good colour perception is desirable or absolutely essential.

MISS WARNE, a blind lady singer, is at present conducting evangelistic services at the village Baptist chapels of Somersetshire.

THE Church Missionary Society has received intelligence of the first successful journey by an Englishwoman into the interior of Eastern Equatorial Africa. The lady in question, Mrs. Last, has gone to the Mambria station, forty-five miles east of Mpwapwa, which was founded by her husband last year, in a very healthy situation among the mountains of Ukaguru.

MISS FRERE has sent a collection of drawings made in South Africa to the rooms of *L'Art*, at 134, New Bond Street. The sketches of native flowers and fruit are particularly interesting, but old Dutch houses and other scenes are also carefully portrayed. The entrance money goes to the aid of the South African Colonial Relief Fund.

THE VICTORIA-LYCEUM AT BERLIN.—Miss Archer, the foundress of this excellent institution in Berlin, which has for its main object the furtherance of woman's culture, is now in England for the purpose of bringing her work more prominently before the British public and securing aid for its extension in some important particulars. Miss Archer is the bearer of a letter from the Crown Princess of Germany, the patroness of the Lyceum, to the Princess Christian, recommending the work of the institution, which, we learn from an ably-written pamphlet by Miss Mary Mack Wall, has developed from four courses of lectures to seventeen courses and ten afternoon classes. For these, 1,100 tickets have been sold to 700 lady students. The Lyceum is at present open to young women of every nationality, but it is hoped to establish in connection with it a Home for English girls who may wish to join

the classes and make particular studies in the German language. To carry this out, separate classes would be arranged for their special convenience. A series of drawing-room meetings is about to be held, at which Miss Archer will explain her proposals in fuller detail.

BELFAST.—A new coffee stand was opened the other day, with some ceremony, by Miss Tod. A few years ago only mayors and M.P.'s were thought dignified enough for such offices, but the relative importance of women in political or social work is beginning to be recognised.

METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION FOR BEFRIENDING YOUNG SERVANTS.—The Hon. Mrs. Brand, the wife of the Speaker, takes much interest in the girls belonging to this Association, and gives personal help in the management of one of the homes, in which some of the most ignorant are trained as laundresses.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

- "Our Set," by Mrs. P. Cudlip.—*Tinsley*.
- "Lares and Penates," by Mrs. Caddy.—*Chatto & Windus*.
- "Glossary of Words Used in Cornwall," by Miss M. Courtney.
- "The Other Half of the World," by Mrs. E. Liddell.
- "On Latmos," by F. A. Kerbright.
- "Our Ride Through Asia Minor," by Mrs. Scott Stevenson.
- "Life in Western India," by Mrs. Guthrie.—*Hurst & Blackett*.
- "Among the Hills," by Miss E. Poynter.—*Hurst & Blackett*.
- "The Future Marriage," by Catherine Childar.—*Hurst & Blackett*.
- "My Love," by E. Lynn Linton.—*Chatto & Winans*.
- "Gondaline's Lesson," by Mrs. Bloomfield Moore.—*Kegan Paul*.
- "Songs and Sonnets of Spring Time," by Constance Nuden.—*Kegan Paul*.
- "Mary Magdalene: A Poem," by Mrs. R. Greenough.—*Kegan Paul*.
- "Outline Lessons on Morals," by Gertrude Martineau.—*Kegan Paul*.
- "Sanskrit and its Kindred Literatures," by Laura Pow.—*Kegan Paul*.
- "Stories of the City of London," by Mrs. Crosland.—*Allen & Co.*
- "Two Pretty Girls," by M. A. Lewis.—*Bentley*.

## THE LAW COURTS.

### No. 1.

#### MONTHLY DIGEST OF DECISIONS ON POINTS OF LAW AFFECTING WOMEN.

The following decisions of especial interest to women have been recently reported.

The references to the legal publications in which the cases noted here, will be found fully reported:—App. Cas.—Law Reports, Appeal Cases. Ch. D.—Law Reports, Chancery Division. L.J. Chanc.—Law Journal Reports, Chancery. L.J.—Law Journal. L.J.Q.B. (C. P. or Ex.)—Law Journal Reports, Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer. L.T.—Law Times Newspaper. L.T.N.S.—Law Times Reports, New Series. N.C.—Law Journal, Notes of Cases. P.D.—Law Reports, Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Divisions. Q.B.D.—Law Reports, Queen's Bench Division. S.J.—Solicitor's Journal. W.N.—Weekly Notes. W.R.—Weekly Reporter.

**HUSBAND AND WIFE—CONVERSION OF HUSBAND'S PROPERTY BY WIFE DURING HIS LUNACY—RECOVERY FROM WIFE'S ESTATE.**—A., who had become insane, was confined in an asylum, and while so confined his wife, who was possessed of considerable separate property of her own, sold certain furniture of A.'s, the proceeds of which she applied to her own use. A. died whilst confined in the asylum, leaving his property for the use of his wife during her life. Upon her death, the plaintiff, the representative of A., brought an action against the executors of her will, by which he claimed an account of the monies received by her during her husband's confinement, and converted to her own use.

*Held*—that the plaintiff was entitled to his claim and to follow the proceeds of A.'s estate in the hands of his wife's executors; that if A.'s wife had been alive, she would have been liable for the goods, there being no change of ownership when she took possession of the goods, and that they remained her husband's goods, for which his representative could sue (*Re Williams—Williams v. Stratton*, 16 N.C. 24; 70 L.T. 314; W.N., 1881, p. 48).

*Note*—In this case the wife seems clearly to have mistaken her powers. Even assuming that she had no separate property of her own, and was entirely dependent upon her husband for support, she had no power whatever to sell his goods, though she could no doubt

have pledged his credit for such things as were "necessaries," such as food, clothing, &c., and might in fact have incurred such expenses as were reasonable in keeping up his establishment during his temporary confinement, and if she had adopted this course instead of proceeding to the extreme measure of selling his property, it seems doubtful whether the husband's estate would not have been liable even though his wife was possessed of such separate property.

**MARRIED WOMAN—SEPARATE ESTATE—ACTION BY CREDITOR—INTERIM INJUNCTION.**—A., a married woman, was entitled to certain furniture, &c., for her separate use absolutely. The plaintiff, a tradesman, who had supplied certain goods to A. as he alleged on the credit of her separate estate, brought an action against her and her husband, by which action he sought to charge A.'s separate estate in respect of such goods, and pending this action he applied for an injunction to restrain the trustees of the deed under which A. was entitled to the furniture, &c., from dealing with it.

*Held*—reversing the decision of Malins, V.C., that the plaintiff was not entitled to an injunction; that though engagements entered into by a married woman on the faith of her separate property, will no doubt bind such property in the sense of enabling a creditor to obtain a judgment against such property in the ordinary way, and thus obtain payment, yet until such judgment has been obtained, he cannot interfere with her separate estate (*Robinson v. Pickering*, 29 W.R. 385; W.N., 1881, p. 30; 16 N.C. 21; Commented on 70 L.T. 326).

*Note*—There appears to be no reason why a creditor in respect of a married woman should be able to obtain a charge upon her separate property in respect of an alleged debt instead of proceeding in the regular way, and obtaining an ordinary judgment against such property, any more than a creditor of a man can obtain such a charge. The engagements of a married woman entered into on the faith of her separate property do not create *any charge whatever upon her property*, the relations between her and the creditor are only that of ordinary debtor and creditor, and though the latter has the right of proceeding against her separate estate, he must proceed in the regular way, and if this were not so, every married woman who is dependent on her separate estate would be left without the means of subsistence upon the mere allegation of some person that she was indebted to him.

**MARRIED WOMAN—INFANT—PETITION TO DISPOSE OF FUND IN COURT—WAIVER OF EQUITY TO SETTLEMENT.**—A married woman, who was an infant, and entitled to

a sum of money in consols, which was in Court, to her credit, presented a petition jointly with her husband to the Court, praying that the consols might be sold, and the proceeds paid to her husband, thereby waiving her equity to a settlement of the consols.

*Held*—that the petition could not be allowed; that an infant married woman cannot dispose of her property; that waiving her equity to a settlement of the consols as she proposed to do was *disposing* of her property, and that though the income of the consols might be paid to her upon her separate receipt, the capital must remain undisturbed until she became of age (*Shipway v. Ball*, 44 L.T.N.S. 49; 29 W.R. 392; W.N., 1881, p. 11).

*Note*—The Court of Chancery is very jealous in guarding the rights of infants who are wards of court, and in seeing that proper settlements are made upon their marriages, and it will not assist the husband even with the consent of the wife in obtaining any property which is in court belonging to her without the husband settles a proper proportion upon the wife. The right of the wife to have such property settled upon her is termed the wife's "equity to a settlement." In the present case the wife was willing to waive such right, and the court very properly refused to allow her to do so.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

DEAR MADAM,—Observing ideas in your REVIEW, as to women having charge of prisons, allow me to say that, when wintering in Rome in 1858-9, I frequently visited all the prisons there, and was especially pleased with the arrangements of the large women's jail.

There was a sentry at the gate, but *no man* within its walls! The warder who admitted me, and all who were in charge of the inmates, were merely quiet-like Belgian nuns. *One* of these had, about 30 women in a court yard, trotting them round in a ring, for exercise; and on entering the great hall, I found *one* other nun seated, reading to say 200 women on benches before her, all busy as bees, with wires, needle and cotton, on woman-

like work, and with as perfect quiet as any anxious reader could possibly desire; only very lightly interrupted by two girls of say four years old, who were playing in a corner.

On my entering, the reader closed her book, and came cheerily to meet me, and show off the really beautiful lace, &c., worked by her pupils of all ages; of whom she was evidently proud. On my expressing surprise regarding the children, she said they belonged to two of the prisoners, as a reward for good conduct, and they had the best softening influence on the whole party.

She alarmed me by pointing out many prisoners committed there, *for murder*. And said, "kindness was a perfect preventive there of everything resembling even discontent. No one ever *dreamed* of disobedience." And, though if they wished, every one could have escaped, even from the sentry at the door, and the guard (a long way from the jail), such an idea never seemed to occur to one of them.

She pointed out several, whose term had expired, but whose entreaty to be allowed to remain in jail, out of temptation from their old companions, was allowed! Altogether, it was a sight to make one "thank God," especially after my inspecting the women's jail, or rather Pandemonium of Lazare, in Paris.

Could we expect the same happy results from the Roman system, if tried with *our* poor, unhappy, British, self-respect-lost women criminals?

Yours faithfully,

J. MACKENZIE, M.D.

*Eileanach, Inverness, April 11th, 1881.*

#### "MISS BERRY ON FEMALE EDUCATION."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

MADAM,—The following extracts from the Journal and Correspondence of Miss Berry, the talented authoress, show the strong feeling entertained by many ladies at the commencement of the present century with regard to the disadvantages of the light and frivolous education then bestowed upon the youth of their own

sex, and at the vexatious and harassing discouragement given to the intellectual efforts of women, whose leisure and abilities afforded them the opportunity and means of engaging themselves in intellectual pursuits, and of acquiring an honourable distinction in a literary career. For at that period there were women whose minds constantly soared above the sphere in which they were able to take a part; who were desirous of promoting the welfare of their fellow-creatures; who longed to be great; who were fired with ambition in the best sense of that term; but at that time there was scarcely any career open to them.

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*"Extract from a Letter to a Friend.*

*"London, Dec: 1806.*

"Desultory and heterogeneous reading is the great evil of all young women. Our education (if education it can be called) is nearly ended by the time that our minds begin to open and to be really eager for information. When you men are sent to college, we are left (such of us as are not obliged to gain our bread, or to mend our own clothes) to positive idleness, without any object, end, or aim to encourage any one employment of our mind more than another. Our imaginations are naturally more lively than yours, our powers of steady attention, I think, less than yours. What would you have us do? Entire frivolity, or any and every book that falls into our hands, are our only resources; and though nobody is more aware than myself that this sort of desultory reading during the first years of (mental) life does often much mischief, and is attended always with a great waste of time; yet it has, at least, this good effect, *et scio quod loquor*, that a love of reading thus natural and thus indulged, is often a happy preventive in future life against more serious follies, more pernicious idleness, and it is to be hoped may be counted upon as a real resource in those days when the attractions of the world and of society fade as much in *our* eyes as our attractions fade in *theirs*."

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"Considering the education given to women, and (according to the present system) the subsequent and



almost necessary idleness both of mind and body, I am only astonished that they are not more ignorant, weaker, and more perverse than they are."

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"All English women think it necessary to profess loving the country, and to long to be in the country; although their minds are often neither sufficiently opened, nor their pursuits sufficiently interesting, to make such a taste rational."

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"A woman who is proud of being what is generally called a *woman of business*, is proud of endowments that would not distinguish a banker's clerk. They are what every woman should be ashamed of *not* having, because every woman must have sufficient leisure to acquire them; but of the possession of which an intelligent mind can no more be flattered than with the knowledge of the pence table."

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"The wrongs or the neglect which women of superior intelligence almost universally receive from men, are revenged by the various evils which men almost as universally suffer from the weakness, the folly, and the meanness of those whom they commonly prefer in the characters of their wives and friends."

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The disadvantages and disabilities, by which the minds of women were at that period oppressed, and retarded in their natural intellectual growth, have now been to a great extent removed by the strenuous and unceasing efforts of energetic and distinguished Englishwomen, who may be congratulated upon their success in navigating their bark through the troublous seas of adverse criticism, and upon their near approach to the haven of success after a long struggle against old-fashioned ideas and prejudices. And the time seems to be not far distant when the same educational advantages will be open to, and bestowed on, children of both sexes, and the education that is considered suitable for the brother will be meted out to the sister, and the

same facilities and opportunities will be afforded in each case.

Yours faithfully,

G. MERYON WHITE.

*Oxford and Cambridge Club, May 3rd.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

MADAM,—The founding of a Scholarship in memory of Miss Ellen Watson, which is open to men, seems somewhat strange, as they are already overburdened with good things in that way. A friend has suggested to me that it must be on the coals of fire principle it has been so arranged; "Here is a crumb of my very small dry biscuit. Can you refuse me a slice of *your* sweet and rich cake?" Thus, perchance, it may be like the widow's cruse, and afford an unfailing supply to those that give, or call down an especial blessing as the widow's mite. Then, indeed, it will be twice blessed if it should serve to kindle in the hearts of men a greater sense of justice; that will be a far greater boon to them than any pecuniary advantages they might surrender in favour of women.

That this may be so, is the prayer of

Yours faithfully,

CHRISTO DUCE MILES.

*April 19th 1881.*

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

THE French Senate has passed a law which tends, though very cautiously, to an improvement in the position of married women. In discussing the organisation of Post Office Savings' Banks, M. Denormandi, Governor of the Bank of France, proposed, as an additional clause, that "married women, whatever may have been their marriage contract, shall be permitted to make deposits without the assistance of their husbands, or may remove such deposits without any assistance, unless the husband should make a decided opposition." Even this hesitating step towards the greater freedom of women was not taken without much deliberation, and the addition of the last few words 'unless the husband makes a decided opposition,'

goes far to neutralise the concession of the first part of the clause. Nevertheless, it is a step in advance.

**WOMEN AS MUSICIANS.**—In a former number (page 8) we recorded the great success that a lady, Mdlle. Holmès, had achieved in the competition, offered by the town of Paris for the best musical composition, for her work of *The Argonauts* nearly obtained the first prize. On April 24th the first public performance took place, before an audience of 4,000 persons, and its success has been complete. The new composer is said to be worthy of a place among the best of the French school.

A YOUNG Russian lady, Mdlle. Skvorzev has supported a successful thesis for her degree before the Medical Faculty of Paris. Her success was as complete as she could desire. Dr. Charcot particularly congratulated her on her work, which he declared did great honour to her masters. One young lady, Mdlle. Richotte, went up for the bachelor's degree in the division of letters this term, and passed with honours.

THE French Educational Congress of primary school teachers lately ended its session at the Sorbonne, and in the evening the members were received by Madame Jules Ferry at the Ministry of Public Instruction. The Congress was elected in the proportion of two members for each department by all the primary school teachers. A good many women were returned, and the Government enabled the elected members to travel to Paris at a very reduced tariff. As might have been expected, one of the decisions of the Congress was that the junior classes should be committed wholly to female teachers. The president of the section which was delegated to treat of infant schools, an Algerian delegate, was schoolmistress of Sidi Bel Abbas. She was much complimented on her report by the Vice-Rector. At the concluding sitting M. Gambetta delivered a speech praising the advantages of education and advocating the importance of interesting ladies in the general diffusion of knowledge.

#### SWITZERLAND.

A HUNGARIAN lady, Countess Wilhelmina Huguay, has passed a brilliant examination at the Zurich University, and obtained the medical degree.

#### AUSTRIA.

MRS. BURTON, the wife of the well-known Captain R. Burton, our Consul at Trieste, is doing a good work in that city in teaching the people kindness to animals. The lesson is evidently much needed, and, judging from Mrs. Burton's speech at her last *fête* and distribution of prizes, her efforts are meeting with decided success. Of course all this costs money. Perhaps some of our readers may be inclined to help by sending a contribution to Mrs. Richard Burton, British Consulate, Trieste.—*Nature*.

#### BELGIUM.

THE Band of Hope movement was introduced into Belgium about three years ago by two English ladies.

#### RUSSIA.

THE Empress of Russia is by Imperial proclamation appointed the

Guardian of the heir apparent as well as of her other children in case Alexander III. dies before his son attains his majority.

AN experiment, according to the *Daily News*, has just been successfully initiated by the new Police Prefect, General Baranoff, for the maintenance of social order. The idea evidently is to unite the administration and the inhabitants in the presence of the common enemy. The householders and lodgers in each of the 228 sections of the city were invited to elect one representative for each section, and these 228 elected persons selected from their number 25 members to form a Council. The friends of women's rights in England will be interested to know that women were included in the franchise in the above question.

SOPHIE PEROWSKI, who was executed at St. Petersburg recently for complicity in the assassination of the Czar, was, according to the *Intransigent*, a woman of the highest endowments and accomplishments, who at the age of sixteen devoted herself to the propaganda of socialist doctrines. For twelve years she never shrank from any sacrifice, and never showed lack of courage or want of presence of mind. She cast aside honour, wealth, ease, and submitted to the coarsest drudgery. She walked along the whole course of the Volga, her energy triumphing over cold, tempests, hunger, and malady. She felt that her mission was to rouse the peasant from torpor, and to this end worked as a harvest woman in hay and wheat fields, sometimes dressed as a man. She lived in miserable lodging-houses, and entered into workshops seeking for employment. She was forced into violence by persecution. Three years ago, after twenty-four months' detention, she was condemned to transportation in the extreme North, and her sentence was executed in mid-winter. She contrived to drug the tea of her guards, and escaped. She worked her way back to St. Petersburg in a peasant's dress, and then to Moscow, where she joined in the railway-mine conspiracy. The people with whom she lodged never suspected her of being a lady, she went so bravely through the most toilsome drudgery. She had also lived so much with poor people as to be able to enter into all their ideas.

WHILE at St. Petersburg, the Duchess of Edinburgh visited the establishment for hospital attendants and assistant surgeons, instituted by the late Empress. She conversed with many of the sick, remaining some time in the section of the building devoted to the patients suffering from typhoid fever.

#### ROUMANIA.

ELIZABETH, the Princess (now Queen) of Roumania, has translated a lot of Roumanian poems into German; and has published them through a Leipzig firm, under the pseudonym of "Carmen Silva."

#### SWEDEN.

A LADY, Mrs. Lea Ahlborn, is the first engraver at the Royal Mint, and does all the engraving of Swedish money and medals.

#### AMERICA.

NEBRASKA.—The Nebraska Legislature has passed, by a large

vote, a constitutional amendment to secure women's suffrage. Women have long held important posts in that State. Miss Emma Kinney held the position of engrossing clerk of the last Senate in Nebraska, Miss Outcalt enrolling clerk, and Miss Strickland engrossing clerk of the House. The Amendment of the Constitution, granting women suffrage, will be submitted to electors of this State at the general election of 1882.

A NEW paper, called the *Western Women's Journal*, devoted to the industrial, educational, and legal interests—particularly the suffrage—of women, has been established. The first number is excellently conducted.

WISCONSIN.—A joint resolution, providing for equal suffrage to both sexes, passed the last Legislature of Wisconsin. If it passes a second legislation, it then goes to the people for ratification. The Bill is similar to the one passed by the Nebraska Legislature, except that it is worded to also include civilised Indians.

OHIO.—Ohio has introduced the following joint resolution, providing for the amendment of the constitution of Ohio, relating to the elective franchise, and defining who may vote in said estate.

*Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio* (three-fifths of the members elected to each house concurring therein), That a proposition to amend the Constitution of the State of Ohio be submitted to the electors of the State on the second Tuesday of October, A.D. 1881, as follows, to wit: That Section 1, Article V., be so amended as to read as follows:—

Section 1. Every citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of the State one year next preceding the election, and of the county, township, or ward, in which he or she resides, such time as may be provided by law, shall have the qualifications of an elector, and shall be entitled to vote at all elections.

At said election the electors desiring to vote in favour of the adoption of this amendment shall have placed upon their ballots the words, "Woman Suffrage—Yes;" and the electors who do not favour the adoption of this amendment shall have placed upon their ballots the words, "Woman Suffrage—No."

VERMONT.—The last session of the Vermont Legislature enacted three laws of much importance to the women of the State. The first one provides that women shall vote on school questions, and have the right to hold school offices. Section 1 of the Act reads as follows: "Women shall have the same right to vote as men have in all school district meetings, and in the election of school commissioners in towns and cities, and the same right to hold offices relating to school affairs."

The second Act enables women to hold office, and is as follows: "Women twenty-one years of age may be elected or appointed to the office of town superintendent of schools or town clerk of a town if they have resided in such town one year next preceding such election or appointment. And any bond given by any married woman so elected or appointed shall be as valid against her separate property, and against her sureties upon such bond, in the same manner as though she were sole and unmarried."

The third enables a married woman carrying on business to sue in her own name: "A married woman carrying on business in her own name may sue or be sued in all matters connected with such business, in the same manner as if she were unmarried, and executions may be issued against her, and be levied on her sole and separate goods, chattels, and estate."—*Western Woman's Journal*.

ARIZONA.—The last Arizona Legislature enacted a law, which has been signed by the Governor, giving women the schoolboard franchise. The same law makes them eligible to all school offices, including the position of Territorial Superintendent.

RHODE ISLAND.—The death is reported, in Providence, of Mrs. Elizabeth R. Churchill, who was well known for her active work for temperance, women's suffrage, and other philanthropic movements. She organized a Women's Club, in 1876, and was a frequent writer for the press. At the time of her death, she was engaged in giving a course of lectures.

MRS. PARKER, widow of the Rev. Theodore Parker, who died in 1860, is recently dead. Her name was Cabot, and her family was descended from John Cabot, the discoverer of the northern part of America. She was a most devoted wife, and was "a perfect house-keeper in her own way, and made it easy for him to exercise the hospitality to which his generous heart prompted him. She adopted his opinions, either because they were her own, or for the more feminine reason that they were his, and he was hers; and when he was called on to make the sacrifices and endure the reproaches which fell upon him, she did not make his burden heavier by her own regrets. She had not the quick wit, the sprightly talent, the self-suppressing tact of Carlyle's 'Jeanie,'—but, like her, she made the pathway of domestic care and pecuniary difficulty easier for her husband to walk in. They were never rich, but never poor, and it was through her means and her good management that he was left free to do his work without the burden of debt and embarrassment on his shoulders. This was much, and so was the sincere and undivided affection which she gave him."—*Woman's Journal*.

CALIFORNIA.—Mrs. C. B. Jones, superintendent of the public schools of Los Angeles, is one of a very small number of ladies who have obtained a city superintendency. There are many ladies as county superintendents, and efficient ones too, but city superintendents are almost invariably men. Mrs. Jones has taught steadily and become known as a thorough, liberal, earnest educator. A vacancy occurred in the position of city superintendent about a year ago, and the board of education properly thought best to reward a faithful teacher by electing Mrs. Jones to fill the vacancy. Her work and success as superintendent have exceeded the predictions of her most sanguine friends.

#### INDIA.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the decoration of the Imperial Order of the Cross of India on Her Highness Lakshie Bhayie, Senior Rani of Travancore.

THE MARY CARPENTER SCHOLARSHIPS, BOMBAY.—The Competitive Examinations at Bombay in connection with these scholarships, which

are granted by the Bombay Branch of the National Indian Association, took place on Dec. 15th, 1880. They have been awarded as follows:—

Two scholarships of 6 rupees per mensem each to Bachubai Rustomjee Master, Churney Road Government School, and Sirinbai Bamansha Vakil, ditto.

One scholarship of 5 rupees a month to Dosibai Framjee Barucha.

Two scholarships of 4 rupees a month to Awabai Moneckjee Kabro, Churney Road Government Girls' School, and Sakrabai Sadashen, Private Girls' School.

Sixty-six candidates from nine different schools put in their appearance to compete for the five scholarships. Of these 42 were Gujarati speaking girls, and 24 Marathi.—*Indian Association Journal*.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has approved of the establishment of the special scholarships at the Calcutta University, to be awarded annually to female candidates.

SOORNABAYA, the Maharani of Cossim bazaar, well known for her boundless munificence in India, has just given a handsome donation in money for the encouragement of the study of Sanscrit literature.

#### AUSTRALIA.

The following advertisement is taken from the *Times*.—It seems rather hard that women should be deprived by law of the right to a provision out of their husband's estate.

NOTICE UNDER THE DOWER ABOLITION ACT OF THE COLONY OF VICTORIA.—Attention is directed to the Act of the Parliament of Victoria called "The Dower Abolition Act, 1880," by which all widows entitled to dower and all married women contingently entitled to dower are required before the 28th day of December, 1882, to lodge a claim in writing with the Registrar-General of Victoria at Melbourne, otherwise they will lose their right to dower.

Every such claim must contain the name and residence of the claimant, and set forth as clearly and distinctly as may be the lands sought to be charged or affected, the date and place of the marriage of the claimant, the name of her husband through whom she claims; and such claim may be signed by such claimant or any one on her behalf; and no such claim will be received unless some address or place within the present limits of the city of Melbourne be named therein as the place at which all proceedings relating to such claim may be served.

The address may from time to time be changed as provided for in section 5 of the Act by endorsing a memorandum of such change on the claim.

Dated at the Registrar-General's office at Melbourne this 14th day of January, A.D. 1881.

RICHARD GIBBS, Registrar-General.

#### EGYPT.

THE Khedive of Egypt intends to establish, at his own cost, a school at Cairo for the education of girls of the higher classes.

THE  
ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.

(NEW SERIES.)

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No. XCVIII.—JUNE 15TH, 1881.

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ART I.—MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE IN SCOTLAND.

DURING the last month, a substantial improvement has been effected in the position of the women of the northern half of Great Britain. The Municipal Franchise Bill which was brought forward by Dr. Cameron, has successfully passed its final stages. Although the Act is differently worded to the English law, it has been assented to by the Government, on the understanding that it will distribute the vote in Scotland precisely as it is in England. Thus the principle of women's suffrage, namely, that representation shall not be denied to any tax-payers on the ground of sex alone, has been once again conceded by our Parliament. The House of Commons which has so often declared its highest feelings to be outraged at the idea of women "taking part in the turmoil of elections," has again cordially given its sanction to their possessing an important vote, based on the qualifications which confer it on men, a vote given every year, and involving attendance at the same polls, and compliance with the same formalities as the Parliamentary vote.

Our readers hardly need to be reminded that the Municipal Franchise was won for women in England twelve years ago. Before the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act of 1835, women ratepayers had rights equal to those of men in matters pertaining to local



government and expenditure, but after that Act they were summarily disenfranchised immediately on any district being incorporated into a Municipal Borough. On June 7th, 1869, Mr. Jacob Bright rose to move, and Mr Rylands seconded the motion, that this invasion of long-established rights should be removed. The Home Secretary (Mr. Bruce) agreed that the proposition was no novelty, as women were allowed to vote under every form of local government, except under the Municipal Act, and he gave it his cordial assent. The Bill passed the Commons without the faintest shadow of opposition, and only one voice was raised against it in the Lords.

Its action was, however, confined to England, where the women were prompt to avail themselves of this recovered privilege. The following year the Education Act gave another franchise to women in England, but this was only extended to Scotland in 1872. We may observe that the first School Board election and the first three Municipal elections took place in England under the old form of open voting. The first election in which women took part in Scotland was under the protection of the ballot. On this occasion, women voted generally in fair proportion to their numbers on the register, but in one town the interest taken in this new election was so great, that every woman on the poll voted, a fact unprecedented in other elections.

The Municipal Franchise Bill for Scotland has passed this year in the same quiet and unobtrusive way as its English sister did twelve years ago. Dr. Cameron, M.P. for Glasgow, introduced the Bill early in the session; it met with no active opposition, only undergoing the usual obstruction of "blocking" with which so many bills are now challenged. This, however, did not prevent Dr. Cameron from safely steering it through the Commons before Easter. The Earl of Camperdown took charge of the Bill in the House of Lords, where it met with no opposition. It was passed on May 13th, but will not come into force till the 1st of January next. Two of the Scotch Town Councils, Arbroath and Haddington, petitioned against it, while others, Aberdeen, Banff, Dundee, Edinburgh, Elgin, and Paisley petitioned in its favour.

It has been frequently pointed out that all political freedom for English men began in local representation. This representation is now no longer withheld from women in any part of Great Britain. When thousands of women in every town of Scotland as well as England take part in their local elections, a clear proof will be afforded how greatly women care for those wider questions which require Parliamentary representation.

Women can bring, if they will, a new element into these elections, a purer life, a deeper sense of responsibility. A few years ago, in one of our large factory towns, a candidate of mean and vicious character was standing for one of the wards. "Is there no one to oppose him?" it was asked. "We could not carry any one else," replied the wire-pullers. "Let us see then what the women can do," and the women of the ward came out and voted for a candidate of nobler life and opinions. It is of the greatest consequence to every Municipal town that this vote should be used widely and intelligently; the vote is a great trust, a grave political responsibility, a preparation for, and also a powerful instrument for securing, the wider franchise, which is coming in a few years. Once more we heartily congratulate all our friends on this great triumph.

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## ART. II.—YOUNG WOMEN'S HELP SOCIETY.

THE need of organization for the help of the roughest class of factory girls in our large manufacturing towns, has been ably pointed out by Miss Ellice Hopkins, a need daily making itself more felt in an age when philanthropy is showering its blessings on every side.

It is hardly, however, to be wondered at that the poor rough factory worker ranks last in the list, not, God knows, because she needs help least, nor because she arouses no pity, although some indeed might be repelled by the noisy, bold-looking girl, in whose every gesture lawlessness may be read.

The fact is, that to deal with such a class is no easy matter. It is not difficult to describe its needs, nor is it impossible to provide for those needs. But to open Reading Rooms, however pleasant and attractive, to establish Lending Libraries, however rich in instructive and entertaining literature, is one thing, and to prevail upon factory girls to avail themselves of such benefits, is quite another. They have been too long neglected—aye, and despised—to understand what to be cared for means. It is a sadly pregnant fact that to apply the term “factory girl” to a working girl is equivalent to offering her an insult, so low has the class sunk, so degraded the very name become. There is a certain stimulus in having a name to keep up. No such stimulus exists here. On the contrary, the truth of the old saying, “Give a dog a bad name and you may as well hang him,” is but too sadly borne out.

If self-respect is at so low an ebb as to be almost extinct, if aspirations after better things are rarely, if ever, felt, because all God-given hope has died away long ago, what wonder that advances made to the poor factory worker, and attempts to ameliorate her condition are regarded with suspicion? She has too long gone her own way to turn from it very readily, and so far having pushed along in this rough world, she does not see why she should change. And so, hedged in on all sides with an impenetrable barrier of so-called independence, the question remains, How is she to be approached?

The establishment of an institution which solves the difficulty, will be hailed with satisfaction. The Young Women's Help Society has already won for itself a reputation from the success it has achieved among the very class described. It provides recreation and reading rooms, lodging houses, lending libraries, penny banks, clothing clubs, and classes for instruction, religious and secular. It encourages temperance and thrift, and employs every possible means for raising the tone of working women, socially, morally, and religiously. Moreover, so elastic is its constitution, that it is as well adapted to the classes of superior shopwomen and mill girls, as to the very roughest factory-workers.

A glance at the Report lately published, will demonstrate this.\*

No mere theory is laid down. No excellent-sounding but untried scheme is mapped out. Such experiments are usually sad indeed in their results, for the plan is tested by eager, earnest workers, who learn from sad experience the wide difference between the ideal and the possible. On the other hand, this Society is the outcome of actual work; its lines have been, one by one, laid down to suit each practical need as it arose, the machinery fitted to the need, not the need to the machinery. Hence the successful issue.

But to answer the question at first proposed, How shall the class under consideration first be approached? In other words, How is the Society to be adapted to the requirements?

In this, as in everything else, *ce n'est que le premier pas qui coûte*, but the most sanguine might well be disheartened at the magnitude of the task before them. The Society has, therefore, very wisely organized a band of travelling workers, who assist in forming branches wherever they are desired, and address meetings of working women. Thoroughly acquainted with the class, its needs, its difficulties, its prejudices, these ladies at once break down the surrounding barrier otherwise so impervious, and win the women, their hearts—and they have hearts—their sympathies, and above all their confidence. It must not be forgotten—and it is a fact which tells both ways—that women engaged in associated labour are necessarily gregarious; one or two lead, the rest follow. And so, the ice once broken, with ordinary tact the class is won, and the rest of the work becomes comparatively easy.

In order to illustrate the working of the Society, it may be interesting to give a brief sketch of a branch at Colchester, which seems to be the pioneer of the movement among rough factory girls. Here we meet with the double difficulty of soldiers and factory girls located in the same town. The public-house and

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\* To be obtained from Miss Bishop, Sec., 29, Queen Square, W.C., 2d. post free.

dancing-room are invested with special attractions, and to supply a substitute for them could be no light task. However, some few years ago, a needlework class on the plan of a "Mothers' Meeting" was resorted to as the first means of approaching the factory workers. So rough and unruly were they, that the assistance of the police in the street outside was found to be necessary. But in an incredibly short time, this assistance was dispensed with, and a complete change in the manners and appearance of the girls was quickly perceptible, followed by a gradual corresponding improvement in the manner of life of several.

At their own request, a Bible Class was next opened; this is now attended by between forty and fifty, of ages varying from sixteen to seventy. One by one other classes have been formed, a Library and Penny Bank established, and a large Club Room, which is open every evening, on Saturday afternoons, on holidays, and Sundays.

Those who are striving to lead Christian lives are banded together, first as Associate Members, afterwards as full Members of the Society. But, at the same time, the benefits described are extended to the whole class. The influence of the Members is brought to bear upon their companions in the work-room, and from among them, their ranks are constantly recruited. Thus the good leaven spreads until it permeates more or less the whole mass.

This excellent work is carried on by a few ladies, who, by their tact and patience, have gradually won their way amongst a class of women confessedly most difficult of approach. Personal influence is the golden key that has opened the lock, first brought to bear by the workers on the working women, then by the women themselves on each other. Apart from this, Club Room, Lending Library, classes, and all that has been justly pointed out as so needful, would be practically useless, a mere barren machinery, from which the vital element would be missing.

It is obvious that a Society which is able to meet the needs of so difficult a class as the one under consideration, can very effectively benefit other working

women. There are the field workers and mill girls of the north, and women employed in shops and warehouses in all towns. Let workers come forward and enrol themselves in this Society, and go forth as an army to their help. There is plenty to be done, a machinery ready to hand; all that is needed are workers.

E. C. PAPILLON.

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### ART. III.—PRISON MISSION AND INEBRIATES' HOME.

*A Paper read by Miss Tod, Belfast, before a meeting of ladies from the North of Ireland.*

IT is a well-known characteristic of good work of any kind, that other branches of usefulness arise out of it, as naturally as flowers and fruit and young leaves appear upon a growing tree. It is, in fact, one of the main proofs that any society or institution, or plan, is a healthy one, when it shows this power of growth. It was therefore a natural result of the quickened interest and enlarged experience brought to bear upon the poorest and most neglected portion of the women of our town, by the Women's Temperance Association, that the Prison Mission was suggested, and took shape in the minds of some of our most ardent and devoted members. The Inebriate Home again, started with almost the same initial impulse, and is worked, together with the Mission, by the same committee and officers, and under the same roof. The immense evident need for this double institution is so great, that one cannot help wondering, to think that they are of such recent date. But the truth is, that "out of sight is out of mind," and nowhere so emphatically as with regard to those who are beyond our sight, not so much from physical distance as moral. But when once Christian women began to look for, and to look at, the classes of women who are in moral and spiritual danger, their ob-

vious needs were sadly recognised, and eagerly sought to be provided for.

The two classes to which the managers of the Prison Mission and the Inebriate Home address themselves are practically scarcely two, but one. Drink comes first in time, and often first also in importance, among the causes which lead women into crime, and having led them, keep them there. These poor sisters of ours have the same original natures as ourselves, but most of them have had such dreary surroundings, such neglect, such ignorance, as their lot in life, that temptation comes to them with a force which we find it difficult to understand. Having once yielded to the seductive spell of the stimulating beverage, which for the time makes them forget cold, and hunger, and loneliness, and ill-usage—nay, which for the time quickens the dull brain, numbs the despair of the stained heart, and sheds delusive brightness over a weary and cheerless life,—is it any wonder that they go back, again and again, to that transient relief? Aye, even when they know that drinking is adding to the burdens they have to carry, adding to the dangers they have to fear, bringing upon them worse ill-usage than before, driving away from them the last remains of affection or kindness that relative or friend might be disposed to show them,—even then they cannot resist its maddening allurements, and fly again to the cheating friend that is ruining them. Nor must we forget how much harder it is for a woman to escape from such a pit of despair than for a man. I do not need to enter upon the physiological grounds for this assertion, though it is certainly probable that the finer organization can less easily bear the murderous assaults of alcohol than the coarser. But I must remind you of the bitter fact that the world is unspeakably harder to a woman who falls than to a man, and that doors of escape which stand open to him are closed to her. A man gets drunk—it is a common occurrence—if it does not actually happen in business hours, his employer thinks it is no concern of his, and takes no heed. It happens again—he is incapacitated for work once or twice; his employer scolds him, his fellow-workmen jeer a little, but if he is a skilled workman, and pulls

himself up a little, he goes back to his work, and no one minds, unless and until it becomes chronic. There is a chance for him; his employer's reproaches, his minister's remonstrances, his wife's entreaties, have room, and space, and chance to be felt, and if there is any good in the man, there often is a real repentance and recovery. But a woman is seen drunk *once*, and a dozen voices carry the tale; her husband is told, and there is a row—perhaps a beating; or her employer is told, and threatens instantly to turn her off, perhaps dismisses her on the spot, without even a threat. If by some wonderful stretch of good nature, the first offence is overlooked, then, if a second occurs, she is looked upon as a lost creature, and an amount of indignation mingles with the displeasure expressed, more vehement than is ever addressed to a man, until after he has wearied out the patience of everyone. This goes far to explain the otherwise very singular fact, that while the number of criminals convicted of all ordinary offences, both against persons and property, are seven or eight times more numerous among men than women; and while the committals for drunkenness, with or without the additions of “disorderly” or “incapable” for a first time, and even a second and third, are also much more numerous among men than women,—yet in the cases where persons have been convicted of drunkenness ten, twelve, twenty, fifty, a hundred times,—the proportion of women, or at least of convictions of these women, is very much larger than that of men. It is evident that the stage of utter and hopeless recklessness, the sense of being abandoned by both God and man, the impossibility of self-restraint, the loss of the power of comprehending help, comes much earlier in a woman's career. Now, the founders of this Mission had the strongest conviction that the largest and worst part of this terrible recklessness arose from causes perfectly preventible, and they determined at least to show the way—at least to try to save a few of these victims, and to stimulate others to try also.

The means of such help are threefold. First, the offered opportunity of again earning their own bread, in peace, and under protection; next, the tender,



thoughtful, womanly kindness which provided that opportunity, and which, by frequent and wise intercourse, renews and deepens the sense of individual interest in each; and last, and most important, the constant, earnest effort to lead them to look for that Divine guidance which alone can keep them in the right way; the prayerful atmosphere around them, the desire, faithful and fervent, to lead them to the Saviour, which these poor sufferers feel and know is the central motive and object of all that is done for them. The results of such work as this cannot be measured, or tabulated. The ladies who work among these women, and who know well that they cannot expect to overcome the whole of the evil influences, not only of a lifetime, but of many lifetimes, for they are, for the most part, the daughters of drunken fathers or mothers, and are born weak in mind or body—are convinced that the success they have met with is up to the full measure of reasonable expectation, in many cases beyond it. From the Homes have gone forth wives and mothers, restored to their proper place of affection and direction in their family; and household servants, who can be trusted by their mistresses, and who desire to show their gratitude for the kindness shown to them by a faithful discharge of homely duties; and workwomen of various kinds, who have proved that by Divine help they can keep from yielding to the temptations ever present about them, even in the midst of loneliness, and sometimes privation. If any of those present are doubtful of the means by which such results are effected, let me ask them to visit the Home, and see for themselves how excellent are the arrangements, both for personal care and regular instruction on the one hand, and for the proper carrying out of the work entrusted to the managers, and which is both to support the Home, and to teach the women how to earn their bread efficiently.

The house is particularly well adapted for its purpose, being a good country house, with large gardens, which has gradually been built round by mills and small streets, and is therefore no longer used as a residence. There is plenty of air, space, and light, useful both for the sewing and washing, which are the principal industries

carried on, and for the physical, and even for the moral improvement of the inmates. The largest room is used as a board-room, for the meetings of committee, and also for the regular religious services, conducted there by ministers of various denominations, as well as by the matron and the ladies of the committee, and other friends. Another large room is the work-room, where sewing is done, both for private persons and for firms, and where the better educated of the women are employed. It is under the direction of a competent work-mistress. Down-stairs, opening upon the yards and gardens, is a most complete laundry establishment, consisting of sorting-room, large washing-room, mangling-room, three rooms used for folding, &c., two smoothing-rooms, and a most admirably fitted-up, large drying-loft, for use in bad weather. There are six good dormitories for the women, besides a probationary ward, and an invalid's room. There are also good rooms for the matron, sub-matron, and laundress, and an ample supply of store-rooms and other necessities. Outside, the large gardens have been converted into good drying-greens, and there is accommodation for a considerable enlargement of the work, if means and opportunity should suggest it.

We have reason to be thankful that a work so large, and so useful, has reached its present point of successful achievement, with so moderate an expenditure of funds. A Home of this kind can never be quite self-supporting, however extensive the scale of work done in it may be. The poor women whom it is designed to save, and restore to a fair chance of honest life in this world, while endeavouring to turn their thoughts to still higher things, are both physically, mentally, and morally, below the average in capacity. Where a superior woman has been led astray by drink, and so falls into such companionship, she has generally some great sorrow pressing on her mind, which is as disabling to her as physical weakness. Such as these can never achieve as much work in the same space of time, even with careful looking after, as an equal number of ordinary honest workers could do, and we must, and ought to make allowance for them.

But, besides, the moral and religious side of the duties of the Home, while never used as a reason for neglecting any household duties, must ever be the most important, in the eyes, both of the matron, the visitors, and the committee. Restored hearts and lives, saved souls, are what they desire to see, the main object to which everything else must be secondary. This care necessitates many little plans for the benefit of the women, not easy to classify, but which any one who has studied how to help those weak and suffering ones who are thrown on our care, will very readily recognize. Let me make an appeal to the friends of temperance present, to help this great and valuable off-shoot of our own proper work. Last year our committee made an appeal of a special sort, through Mrs. Byers, to whom both societies owe more than we know how to express, for the removal of a debt necessarily incurred in laundry fittings, and other indispensable matters. But though there are no debts on it now, there is a steady claim for help, remembrance, and encouragement. Not all can give money, but all can give their earnest prayers and sympathies, and some can give personal help, and some can give money. Let each give "as the Lord hath prospered her."

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#### ART. IV.—THE MADRID UNIVERSITY.

A VERY important discussion has been carried on for some weeks, and still continues, in the Royal Council of Public Instruction, in Madrid, upon the admission of women to the scientific professions. As we have often had occasion to point out, the University of Madrid has for many years been legally open to women. Owing, probably, to the low standard of female education in Spain, and the difficulty of procuring good secondary education preparatory to studying in the University, very few women students have presented themselves.

Nevertheless, two or three have passed, and obtained University Degrees. Now, it is asked, "What is to be done with these troublesome women, who having worked hard for their knowledge, unreasonably desire to put it into practice, and become doctors? The question has been brought to issue by a Catalonian lady, who has studied medicine, and now desires her degree. The Council is divided upon this topic, the minority siding with the ladies, the majority being opposed to their claims.

One of our correspondents communicated with the Director-General of Public Instruction, Don Pascual de Gayangos, a very learned and clever man, member of the Council of Education, to get the requisite information. He writes as follows:—"The Council of Public Instruction, or Educational Board, is still debating whether ladies who have obtained degrees at the Universities, can exercise the profession of medicine and surgeons, or not. Hitherto there has been no law preventing women from attending lectures at the Universities, and therefore two or three have obtained degrees, &c. Most likely these will be allowed in future to practise, but no degree in medicine will be taken by women, though they may have gone through a course of studies at the University."

The medical faculty looks with the same cool distrust upon the request for admission, as until lately has been expressed by the majority of the English and Scotch Faculties of Medicine. An article in the *Siglo Medico* for May 15th is as follows:—

A prolonged discussion is being carried on, according to the papers in the Royal Council of Public Instruction, about the education of women, a subject which has been neglected for so long. We think it ought to be improved, in order to obtain good mothers who will fulfil their domestic duties and educate their children as good Christians, forming their hearts, and giving clear and enduring light to their understanding. Only the love of a good mother can do this. We also think it expedient to organise superior instruction for women, which may open to them certain professions, sufficiently productive to satisfy their necessities, and thus separate them from imminent danger. There is no need of saying that the cultivation of the fine arts ought to be made easier, and the acquisition of those accomplishments for which the gentle sex has undisputed ability. But will women be able to discharge the functions of an engineer.

a lawyer, a physician, and some of the other professional callings? We do not think so.

What has hindered the gentle sex from dedicating themselves to the profession of medicine for example, except that bashful modesty which distinguishes them, their exquisite sensibility, and the seriousness of such a delicate calling? In the middle ages there were not even any titles of doctor; each one studied medicine as he could, or where he could; Moors, Jews, and Christians, exercised it at their pleasure; priests and seculars followed the calling. . . . Why did not women dedicate themselves to it? It is because the functions of the physician do not accommodate themselves to their nature. Besides, their slender aptitude for the cultivation of the art of medicine is evident, simply by observing what has happened with matrons or midwives. It is probable our mother Eve helped her eldest daughter in childbirth, and since that time women assist at childbirth all over the world. There could scarcely be a longer or more tranquil possession of an art which in recent times, governments have endeavoured to bring to perfection both in study and practice by granting special titles. But what has happened? Women have been unable to advance the profession: The books written by matrons are exceedingly few, and even those of doubtful origin, and in all serious cases they have been obliged to recur to a surgeon. Can there be a clearer proof of their want of ability.

What is natural, and what ought to be, has invariably happened in the whole world ever since the creation, and for this reason it has happened that since the beginning of the world women have not dedicated themselves to certain professions.

Let this matter be thought over, leaving aside those stupendous fictions of emancipation, and other big words now in vogue. In time we shall see the fruit of the work of the Council.

We shall anxiously await further tidings of this important discussion.

#### ART. V.—THE BOTTA PRIZE AND THE FRENCH ACADEMY.

A NEW event has excited lively interest among the members of the French Academy. In 1876, a lady, Madame Botta, an American we believe, left by her will a legacy of 20,000 francs, of which the proceeds were to be given every five years by the French Academy as a prize for the best essay on the position of women. The first competition was to be in 1881. When Madame Botta originally made this proposition to the Academy,

she requested the subject of the work might be "The Emancipation of Women." The Academy declined to accept the gift, a great number of members wishing to refuse the legacy altogether. It was finally determined to accept the legacy under the modified title of the "Condition of Women." The prize is to be given this year. The discussion began on the 10th of May, when the essays were received. The first in order of merit was signed M. L. R. (M. Léon Richer), and the Commission appointed to decide reported in its favour; but again opposition waxed strong. This essay contained the execrable theory that woman is the equal of man, the mother the equal of the father, and those members of the Academy who had not read the essay were the loudest in their refusal to admit it. A copy was then sent to each member, and the discussion was postponed for a week, but the decision had already been arrived at by the clerical and ante-republican majority. On the 19th it was resumed amidst increasing excitement, M. Emile Ollivier being the most tenacious opponent, while M. Renan maintained that the judgment of the Commission ought be accepted. The Academy has finally determined to grant no prize this year, asserting that some of the essays were not worthy of reward, and others had changed the conditions of the programme. It remains to be seen what the Academy will do with Madame Botta's legacy which it accepted on conditions which it now sees fit to break. Surely, it cannot retain the money.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### ADMISSION OF WOMEN TO DURHAM UNIVERSITY.

A VERY important triumph in the cause of education has been won in the North of England. The Senate of Durham University, on May 12th, passed, unanimously, the three following resolutions, providing for the ad-

mission of women to the Public Examinations and the First Degree in Arts of the University.

1. That female students who shall have fulfilled the requirements of the University respecting residence and standing, shall be admissible to the Public Examinations and the first Degree in Arts of the University.
2. That the residence of such students shall be passed, either (a) in a College or Hall, licensed by the Warden and Senate, the regulations of which shall be under the direction of the authorities of the University; or (b) in some institution which shall be established for the purpose of private individuals, with the permission and under the control of the University.
3. That these regulations shall take effect in Michaelmas Term, 1881.

These resolutions have been adopted by Convocation on May 24th, after an animated discussion. This important Convocation, which establishes a great principle, was held in Bishop Cosin's Library, Palace Green. The gallery was crowded with undergraduates, who manifested the greatest interest in the proceedings. There was also a large number of lady and gentlemen friends present. The Dean, robed as Warden, presided; and amongst those assembled in Convocation, were the Rev. A. Plummer, M.A. (Principal of the University); the Rev. W. Sanday, D.D. (Principal of Hatfield Hall); the Rev. R. J. Pearce, M.A. (Professor of Mathematics); the Rev. A. S. Farrar, D.D. (Sub-Warden, and Professor of Divinity and Ecclesiastical History); the Rev. T. S. Evans, M.A. (Professor of Greek and Classical Literature); the Rev. H. Holden, D.D. (Durham School); the Ven. Edward Prest, M.A. (Archdeacon of Durham); the Rev. J. T. Fowler, M.A. (pro-Proctor, and Lecturer in Hebrew); the Rev. T. Rogers, M.A. (Precentor, Durham Cathedral); Dr. Armstrong (Newcastle); the Rev. W. Mayor (Thornley); and the Rev. J. W. Brown (Silksworth).

The *Durham Chronicle*, of May 27th, thus reports this important meeting:—

The WARDEN, who was received with loud cheering by the undergraduates in the gallery, said those who had accorded him such a hearty reception, would, he was sure, do nothing that was unseemly or improper during the course of this discussion. The subject which he would proceed at once to bring before them was one of real importance, and one that had already been dealt with by two, if not by three, of the great Universities of the country. Cambridge, as they well knew, had decided, after due deliberation, that the time has come when women should receive something like a University education. London has also come to this same decision; and Oxford had taken a step in that direction, because, as they knew, there were two great Colleges now established there for the higher education of women, the members of which were certainly permitted to attend University lectures. The subject, therefore, had been forced upon their attention, and it became a question whether they should follow the example which had been set them by other great Universities of the land, or whether they should lag in the rear, and refuse to take any steps in this matter. They could not; because not to act was practically to act. He was sorry the subject had been forced upon his consideration, because it had given him an enormous amount of trouble which he would gladly have avoided. They perhaps would be surprised, as certainly he had been surprised, at the immense interest which this question had excited in all towns throughout the country; particularly in the towns of the North of England. He held in his hand about one-fifth of the petitions which he had received from various places, including Leeds, York, Manchester, Huddersfield, Bradford, Sheffield, and from other towns in Yorkshire, in favour of the admission of female students to their University. He had also received similar petitions from Cheltenham, where there was a large College for ladies established, signed in the first place by the vicar of Cheltenham himself, and afterwards by a large proportion of the respectable inhabitants of that beautiful and considerable town. Again, he had received petitions from London, petitions from members of the London University, and petitions from persons of great distinction indeed, and from many towns south of London, as well as north. The question really came to this: Has the time come when it is desirable that women should receive a higher education, when they should receive a University finish? And if that time had come, the next question was, Is it desirable, for the credit of the University of Durham, that it should give or not give that education? He had no doubt himself on either of these points. With regard to the first—he was not going to give them a disquisition on the education of ladies—but this he would venture to say, and this really was the kernel of the question. He believed that three most precious years in the life of ladies were generally now lost in an educational point of view; and that there would be one universal agreement on this point, whether those three years were to be spent in a University or not. It certainly was very desirable that the three years from 17 to 20 should be passed in a University. And they must bear in mind that this was not a point which only struck people at this time. It was a point which had



suggested itself to the thinking mind long years ago. Instead of expressing any opinion of his own, he would briefly read what contained the gist of the whole question, and that was the expression of thought on the subject by Dr. Arnold, when writing to a man well known, and a man of most conservative tendencies, the late Lord Justice Coleridge. He said, "I feel as strongly as you do the extreme difficulty of giving the girls what really deserves the name of education intellectually. But there is nothing for girls like the Degree Examination, which concentrates one's reading so beautifully, and makes one master a certain number of books perfectly. And unless we had a domestic examination for young ladies to be passed before they came out—and another like the great go, before they come of age, I do not see how the thing can ever be effected. Seriously, I do not see how we can supply sufficient encouragement for systematic and laborious reading, or how we can ensure many things being retained at once fully in the mind, when we are wholly without the machinery we give to our boys. I do nothing now with my girls, owing to want of time." After this he specified Guizot's Civilization of France and Civilization of Europe, and then goes on to say, "They embrace a great multitude and a great variety, and some philosophical questions, amongst the rest, which would introduce a girl's mind a little to that world of thought to which we were introduced by our Aristotle." It had been said that the study by young ladies of Aristotle took all the enjoyment, all the fun, and all the life out of them. He would like to appeal to those present whether that study tended to a joyless existence. For his own part, he thought it would make their lives more joyful. It would give them a fuller understanding of human nature, which was always the parent of humour; and at the same time it fitted them to take a part in the problems that were interesting to man. There was a large class of ladies—most truly so to be called, and they were as much to be found in the North of England, and perhaps more so than in any part—who had by unhappy circumstances, from which he hoped many of the sisters present might be free, to earn their own livelihood. For that large class of ladies who were destined to be the heads and mistresses of schools and governesses, and took part in many of the offices which were open to women, he could not imagine a better discipline or training, or one that would give them a better knowledge of human nature, than that which was got by such a training as many of those in the gallery profited by. So he disposed of the question, whether or not those proposals would be a good thing for ladies generally. And coming to the question whether, if it be so, there is any reason against their passing those three years within the precincts of the University of Durham? In the first place he would say *à priori* that he would have great hesitation as to the mixed classes with men, and as to their taking up their abode within the walls of the University. Most of those present had heard of the proverb "*Salvitur ambulando*." But in the present case the problem had been solved for them over and over again by other great universities. He had made inquiries as to whether any difficulty was experienced at those universities with ladies attending mixed classes; and the answer he received was that such was the good feeling of

undergraduates that they had never known a case where there was a difficulty or an annoyance to a lady. He would be sorry to think of the undergraduates of Durham, if the experiment was tried in the University, that they would come out worse from the ordeal than the undergraduates of the sister University of Cambridge. Such was the chivalry and the courtesy of the English character, that he was sure they would treat them as ladies, and that nothing like a disagreeable or unpleasant incident would arise to any lady of the University. He felt perfectly confident on that point, if ladies were admitted under those due regulations and restrictions which the Senate intended to impose on colleges, that there would be no difficulty as regarded the University of Durham. Such being the case, he would very confidently submit these proposals to them that day. He did not expect a large number of female students, neither did he know of a worse thing than that the ladies should be allowed all the privileges of unattached students. Therefore, they could only be admissible under the care of a proper college to be established here. Therefore, they would make that a requisite condition, as Cambridge had done. They would say to their friends who had made this application, "If you are anxious to see the education of women undertaken under the best auspices, and in the most successful manner in the University of Durham, you must come forward and found such a college as is requisite." There was a sort of idea because Durham had large funds a hundred years ago, that the funds increased for ever. The gloomy state of things in every part of the country during the last six or seven years ought to have dispelled that idea. He hoped they would carry the proposals something like unanimously. In doing so, they would call forth general expressions of satisfaction, and they would be acting in harmony with the sister universities. In doing so, they would be conferring a great boon on their fellow countrywomen. In conclusion, he would only say that the strength and the future prosperity of Durham consisted in not standing still. They were but a small University, and they must now and again make some experiment to keep themselves alive, otherwise they would forget their very existence. During the last eight or ten years he had known many experiments tried here. He had known many who had vehemently opposed them, and he had known those who were most vehement in their opposition most vehement in their applause when the experiment was found to be a success, and take the whole credit to themselves. Let it be so on this occasion. Let some of their friends—he did not think many would oppose this motion—vote against them; and he was quite confident in five or six years they would say, "You did quite right." The ladies have increased the numbers in our classes very considerably, and in every sense, both physically and intellectually, they are an ornament to the University."

The Rev. A. PLUMMER had been, he said, asked not to give a silent vote on this occasion; and, therefore, he would state why he would vote for the motion before Convocation. There were a considerable number of people present who felt themselves somewhat in the position he did. They felt their heart on one side and their head on the other. As a married man, he was bound to confess that on this

occasion it was his heart that was for the ladies, and his head that was for the University. There was a great deal of sentiment connected with a subject of this kind, as well as misgivings and doubt. On this matter he quite agreed with what their Bishop said at the Conference a little time ago—if there was anything in sentiment worth preserving, preserve it by all means; but when sentiment stood in the way of real progress, real good, away with it in the name of God. He did not contemplate any danger from this movement. Anxiety there must be; because it was making a venture; and the University was not so firmly established—though they were more firmly established now than they were some time ago—that they could afford to “play tricks” with themselves and risk the future. At the same time “nothing venture and nothing have.” Even from a merely selfish point of view, he believed these proposals—if they succeeded in carrying them, and he believed there was a reasonable chance, and more than a reasonable chance—they would be a real benefit to Durham. On the other hand, the gist of the thing was not the way it would affect themselves, but the way in which it would affect others. While they looked at it from the point of view of their own interests, let them also look at it in the interest of those who appealed to them; and those of them present who had to make their way in the world surely must feel that this consideration came home to them whose education was drifting abroad, so to speak, and who, when educated, scarcely know when they will be able to compensate themselves for the pains they had bestowed. When ladies were educated, what proof could they give of it? But if they had got their degree and could show their diploma, that would be a proof that they deserved their reward. Then they would have made for themselves a place in life. It was their duty to support this measure so far as they could, and he said, “so far as they could” advisedly. For as the Warden had just said, the advocates of this measure—the people who were making the application—were the people who were bound to come forward and support it. He was quite willing to have his share of the responsibility in voting for this measure as a member of the University of Durham. But the responsibility did not rest simply with those who voted for it—it would rest with the whole University. If the measure was carried that day, the first responsibility rested with those who had asked for it. They were bound to come forward if they were in earnest; and unless they were in earnest they had no business to ask for it; it was they who were to come forward with their zeal and their purse to ensure this boon to those for whom it was to be granted, and to turn the movement into a success.

CANON EVANS said: Mr. Warden—I think it not at all improbable, seeing how we live in such marvellous times, and such successive revolutions, that the next time I have the privilege to address this Convocation, I shall have to commence my address not with the words “Mr. Warden and gentlemen,” but with the term, “Mrs. Warden, ladies, and gentlemen.” It is impossible to foretell what the march of events may be. I am myself not in the least prepared with a formulated oration. We are met together to-day to vote aye or nay on a certain question, and I was somewhat surprised to hear

you, sir, as Warden, say that there was to be an open discussion. That being so, I shall endeavour in as few words as possible to state what I consider a few important reasons why this question should not be adopted. Beyond all question, sir, this is a measure which involves a vast variety of social considerations. It is like a tree with many branches, and some of those branches may be laden with a sort of forbidden fruit. But for all that, it is a question which bids fair to go down the age far beyond all the ideas or conceptions of those who are listening to-day. It does assume a sort of sacred importance when we reflect that in the sacred scriptures there are passages, not few nor far between, which ought to have been taken into consideration as bearing on the execution of our duty. It is a very difficult matter for me to broach just now before this elegant and *elite* company; but if I were to point to the Scriptural bearing of the case, I might be compelled to recall to your memory certain texts that lay before us how we should be guided in such a matter. What is proposed to be done is, I suppose, for the improvement of the education of ladies. Very good—nothing can be better. But the question is, are we adopting the best methods for that improvement. My objections lay—or may be said to lay—in the identity of the studies, and then in the result that it may have upon the duties of life. In the identity of studies, I say, the drift must be inevitably towards the moral identification of the two sexes; for I apprehend it would lead, if I may be permitted to quote Shakespeare, to the unsexing of the fair sex. We read also in the words a certain apostle addressed to the Church at Corinth, that the constitutional, natural, normal, and divinely appointed sphere for the woman is to have subordination to the man. It appears to me that equality of studies may lead to a certain equality of position and certain equality of opposition; and it certainly will conduct to a revolution of moral competition which those can appreciate who have any idea of matrimonial jars. I do not for a moment, as I said before, object to the amelioration of the education of the fair sex; but I certainly think, without going into details, that such an end might be promoted by less objectionable methods. As I said before, I did not come here with any formulated speech, and I do not intend to push my opposition further than now to give my protest against the proposal; and my hearty response to the question is, "*non placet*."

The Rev. Dr. SANDAY, Principal of Bishop Hatfield Hall, said he should be glad to take this opportunity to explain his position in this matter. He was prepared to vote in favour of the proposals. And he was prepared to say that the question had occasioned him a great amount of anxiety. The words of the Warden had in a great measure anticipated what he had to say. If it had been placed on merely personal grounds, or on University grounds, he should not have seen his way to vote for the motion. . . . Now he came to question of principle, and this had decided him in the step which he was about to take. Practically it resolved itself into something of this kind. There was a tendency in the colleges at present to produce a woman that is not the best and most admirable. There was a tendency towards some exaggeration of culture. This might be to some extent met and obviated. It was still outweighed by the con-

sideration that there are two great motives for the measure. The first was that students at colleges of this kind are attracted by a desire for knowledge, and this could best be obtained in some college, some centralized institution, which could attract the best teaching ability, and therefore give the best education. The other motive was the desire for independence. It was not to be thought of for a moment that every girl shall look forward to the marriage era. And it had been a great misfortune to many that they had to look forward alone to that era as a way out of their difficulties. But there were many who had no choice in the matter at all—who must support themselves do what they would. A father might die and leave half-a-dozen daughters with a very slender capital. That capital would be exhausted in a very few years. It was only sufficient to give them a good education, but with that education they might be able to make their own way in the world. As the Professor in Greek had said, if it would be of value to grant such degrees to women as would open out careers to them, and that would benefit not only them but the world at large, then he thought they ought to do so. In his opinion the objections to the motion had been partly met and mitigated. There were objections which could have been urged ten years ago with very much greater force than they could now. The movement had been a success at Cambridge, and if it was a success there, he had not the slightest doubt that it would be a success here. He had every confidence that the experiment could not fail because of any complaints arising from the conduct of the male students, or of the lady students either. Another question which interested him was the tone of the University. He might say, without fear of contradiction, that at present it was serious and earnest without being priggish; it was open-minded with being advanced; and it was manly without being fast. There was a further ground for confidence, seeing that at Cambridge the tone of the University had been raised by this step. As with Cambridge, the movement need not be thrown into the hands of the progressive party in the University. That would not, he thought, be the case here. He thought if lady students came to Durham they might do them less harm than if they were elsewhere. At the same time he felt the responsibility that rested upon them all. The choice of the head of the College would be a great responsibility. They ought to strike out a new path for themselves, and not follow the lead of either Newnham or Girton. These were the reasons which had influenced him in this matter, and he had looked at the matter with great anxiety; but he felt a great obligation to vote for the measure.

The Rev. W. MAYOR, of Thornley, had great pleasure in coming to Durham to support the motion. He had seen many ladies occupying good positions in society, who, by the loss of a relative, had been thrown upon the cold charity of the world. Had those ladies possessed such an education as this University could give, they could at once have won a position for themselves. He thought the adoption of such a measure would be a really good thing, and would be the means of placing many on a footing to support themselves, and perhaps to support also a poor mother who could not do it for herself. He did contend most strongly that it would be pro-

ductive of great good for this northern diocese of Durham. As chairman of one School Board in his own district, and as member of another, he knew the value of ladies admitted as members of those Boards, and they were a great help to clergymen in country parishes. Ladies could conduct themselves as well as those of the sterner sex, and were able to make suggestions equally valuable with any member of the Board. He thought if they were in a position to take their B.A. degree, it would give them what was very much needed. By adopting the measure they would, in his opinion, be conferring a very great boon, not only on the diocese, but on the whole of the northern counties. Therefore, as a stranger, he had great pleasure in supporting the resolutions.

The Rev. Mr. BROWN, of Silksworth, as a member of Convocation, begged to say that he could not see his way to support the motion. He could not see that the effect of the motion was likely to be one of unmixed good. If they were to find colleges at all for ladies, why not go forward and find an University, and then they would get rid of one of the strongest objections which had been advanced against the proposal. There were great objections to the ladies attending at the lectures, not because of the conduct of the students, but because of the character of the lectures—particularly the medical lectures. In adopting new rules, such as this measure would involve, they would be striking at the root of all feelings of chivalry. They would be introducing quite different relations between the sexes, and he was afraid it would tend to lower the tone of their English ladies as time wore on, and that was the last thing he should like to see. They were all proud of the ladies; they admired the delicacy, the refinement, and the indescribable charm about them; but the tendency of the present day was to go against all that, and those qualities would not be enhanced by bringing them to Colleges frequented by men.

The WARDEN said perhaps so much had been said on both sides that it was hardly necessary for him to reply. They had heard a good deal advanced on both sides; but as the principle of the day was action, he would suggest that Durham University would show itself to be keeping pace with the age by adopting such proposals as these. He then proceeded to put to the vote the first resolution as follows:—

“1. That female students, who shall have fulfilled the requirements of the University respecting residence and standing, shall be admissible to the public examinations and the first degree in arts of the University.”

The vote being taken by verbal assent or dissent, the Warden ruled that the “ayes” had it. There were then loud cries of “Divide,” particularly from the students in the gallery. The Warden therefore directed that the “ayes” should range themselves on his right hand, and the “noes” on the left. When counted, the votes were declared to be:—“Ayes,” 14: “noes” 4. The motion was therefore declared carried. The second and third motions, which were carried without a division, were as follows:—

“2. That the residence of such students shall be passed either (a) in a college or hall, licensed by the Warden and Senate, the regu-

lations of which shall be under the direction of the authorities of the University; or (b) in some institution which shall be established for the purpose by private individuals with the permission and under the control of the University."

"3. That these regulations shall take effect in Michaelmas Term, 1881."

The students then gave three cheers for the Warden as they left the gallery.

Although the degree of B.A. is open to women, the work is by no means finished, because no provision has been made for the reception of women students. Nothing has been arranged yet about lectures or scholarships, but the University cannot now stop half way, and thus neutralize the force of its own decision.

Dr. Sanday, Principal of Bishop Hatfield's Hall, writes to say that the Senate are prepared, in the first instance at least, to supply a house rent free; but that it is thought that the furnishing and other incidental expenses cannot properly fall upon the University, which would derive but very slight and indirect benefit from the residence of students in it. The Senate are, we are informed, of opinion that the expenses, which would be only partly covered by the the payments of students, should be met by a guarantee fund. "As to the scholarships (our correspondent adds), or at least the entrance scholarships, we have no great number, and at present need all that we have; but if any benevolent person should think to found others in connection with the new hall (as in the case of the new foundations at Oxford and Cambridge), it is quite open to them to do so."

#### CAMBRIDGE.

The Duke of Devonshire, as Chancellor of Cambridge University, has undertaken to decide whether the recent action of the Senate relating to the formal admission of women to the Tripos examinations is illegal, as contended by certain members of the Senate, or, as asserted in a counter memorial, signed by Professors Adams and Stuart, Messrs. Westlake, Burn, Blore, Sidgwick, and Prothero, "consistent with the strictest interpretation of the powers expressly attributed to it by its existing statutes."

#### OXFORD.

The *Athenæum* says in "Notes from Oxford," "As the

recent admission of women to the Tripos examinations at Cambridge has excited considerable attention, it may not be amiss to say something of the present condition of women's education here. Oxford was lamentably late in the field, and our operations are still on a small scale, but the thing is growing nevertheless. The scheme of lectures, put out by the Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women, if not so comprehensive as we hope it will be in time, is strong in the ability of the teachers whose services have been secured, such as Professor Nettleship and Mr. Boase in classics and history, and Mr. Harcourt and Mr. Esson in science and mathematics. The two halls are both full, and both are increasing their accommodation. Somerville Hall in particular, which was founded on the pattern of Newnham at Cambridge, has now purchased the freehold of the house and pleasant grounds it has hitherto rented, and contemplates the immediate addition of a new wing. With the view of raising the funds required and not less of diffusing a wider knowledge of and interest in the Hall, local Committees have been established in London, Birmingham, and Reading, and as yet about £5,000 has been subscribed. The Hall has been incorporated as an Association not intended "for profit" under the Companies Acts, and formally entered on this new stage on May 28th.

#### EDINBURGH ASSOCIATION FOR UNIVERSITY EDUCATION OF WOMEN.

The annual meeting of the Edinburgh Association for the University Education of Women was held on the 20th of April. The Right Honourable Countess of Rothes, President of the Association, was in the chair, and distributed the Edinburgh University certificates in Arts for women, which had been gained by students of the Association, as also two diplomas of the Association. The following are the names of the successful students: Miss Theodora Gehrich and Miss Agnes Eva Brand, Association Diplomas; Miss Margaret Little, First Class Honours; and Misses A. E. Brand and J. P. Middleton, Second Class Honours, University Certificate in Mathematics: Miss Grace Fairley and Miss A. Hutchinson,



First Class Honours, University Certificates in Latin; and the Misses Sarah B. Balfour, Alice Drysdale, and Margaret T. Todd, Ordinary University Certificates.

Professor Fraser said that the Faculty of Arts had this year been very much gratified by the large number of candidates for the certificates which was considerably greater than on any former occasion, and also on the whole, by the quality of the answers returned by the candidates at the different examinations. Professor Masson announced that the number of students last session was—English literature 75, of whom 20 obtained class honours; moral philosophy 52, of whom 14 obtained class honours; economic science 22, of whom 5 obtained class honours; Latin 17, of whom 7 obtained class honours; mathematics 5, all of whom obtained class honours; and botany 40, of whom 10 obtained class honours. Next session the classes would be those of English literature, moral philosophy, Greek, Latin, geology, and fine arts. There was also a chance that a music class might yet be formed.

The following ladies were afterwards elected members of Council: Miss Flora C. Stevenson, Miss Louisa Dundas, Miss Blyth, Miss Walker, Miss Hamilton, Miss Helen Neaves, and Mrs. T. Graham Murray.

#### ST. ANDREWS

There are now about 200 women who have passed the necessary examination and have received the degree LL.A. (Lady Literate in Arts). Hitherto it has not been necessary for the ladies to present themselves at St. Andrews; the majority have passed their examinations at London or at Halifax. The ladies, however, now desire something more. They ask, in the first place, for permission for women to attend a regular curriculum at the University, and this the Senate grants on the understanding that a sufficient sum be raised to enable it to give "separate courses" of systematic University instruction. They further ask for admission to degrees in arts, and this request the Senate avows its willingness to further "provided that the attendance of students, the demand for graduation, and the existing interests of the University warrant such a step." On

one point the Senate insists, and that is that every female student must lodge or board in some house in St. Andrews to be approved of by the Senate. A University degree which implies solely the passing of an examination is no more satisfactory for women than it is for men, and the Senate is perfectly right in making residence a *sine quâ non*. The following candidates have obtained the title of LL.A.: Mary Barbara Brymer, Mary Ann Cook, Ann Foreman, Jean W. Grant, Margaret Hill, Veronica Bishop, Isabel J. Kyd, Eliza B. Lumsden, Grace B. Morrison, Elizabeth D. Murdoch, Alison G. Patterson, Christian J. Patterson, Catherine Ryley, Georgina S. Sorrel, Jane and S. Spiller, Isabella W. O. Young, Catharine Clarke, Emma Dickes, Susanna Green, Janet S. Haig, Mary Ellen Mellor, Alice Mary Mulley, Ann Esther Regnarte, E. W. Roberts, Kate Sercombe, Ella Stones, Alice V. Thirion, Hannah Cheetham, Fanny Hanson, Charlotte McCrobin, Marian Rand, Constance Lucy Sargent.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, GLASGOW.—The annual examinations held by the Society of Arts in practice of music took place a few days ago in the rooms of the Glasgow Association for the Higher Education of Women, St. Andrew's Hall. Dr. John Hullah was the examiner. The number of candidates examined for instrumental music was seventy-five, of whom twenty-three took first class certificates, twenty-nine second class, and only twenty-three failed to pass. For vocal music twenty were examined, of whom ten gained first class, seven second class, and three failed. The prize offered for instrumental music was awarded to Miss Jane P. Corbett, Regent's Park Square, who received full marks (100), and the prize for singing to Miss Maggie Macauley, Greenock.

GOVERNESSES' ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND.—The annual meeting of this Association was held on May 10th, in the Alexandra College, Dublin. The Lord Bishop of Limerick took the chair, and her Excellency the Countess Cowper honoured the meeting with her presence. Full testimony was borne by all the speakers to the very great value of the work of the institution.—*Dublin Examinations.*

**DUBLIN EXAMINATIONS.**—The results of the Examinations for Women held by the University of Dublin have just been published. In the junior grade 53 candidates presented themselves, of whom 25 failed to pass. In the intermediate grade 37 presented themselves, of whom 17 passed. The Scholarship presented by the Board of Trinity College to the candidate obtaining the highest sum of marks, was won by Miss Alice Oldham, Dublin (self-prepared, except in one language). In the senior grade 7 candidates presented themselves, all of whom passed. The National Union Scholarship was awarded to Miss Wilkins, prepared at Alexandra College. For certificates in special subjects 6 candidates presented themselves, of whom 3 obtained certificates. The Wilkins' Mathematical Prize was not awarded. The highest authorities in Trinity College consider the answering, on the whole, to have been of very high merit, the course, especially in the two higher grades, being a very wide and laborious one.

**UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.**—A meeting in connection with the London Society for the Extension of University Education was held at the Greycoat Hospital, Westminster, on June 1st, for the purpose of establishing autumn and winter courses of lectures in Westminster for ladies at the Greycoat Hospital, and for gentlemen at the United Westminster Schools. It was resolved that a local committee should be established to carry out the scheme.

#### MEDICAL APPOINTMENT.

Miss Clark, M.D., L.K.Q.C.P.I., has resigned her post as Senior Medical Officer at the Children's Hospital, Birmingham. In consequence of the changes involved by this resignation, the Committee have met, and promoted Miss Alice Ker, M.D., L.K.C.P.I., to the senior post vacated by Miss Clark, and elected Miss Marston to the junior post formerly occupied by Miss Ker. All these ladies have been students at the London School of Medicine for Women. Miss Marston has been entirely educated at Henrietta Street and the Royal Free Hospital.

#### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY.

The Bill for amending the English law again suffered

a "count out" on May 24th. It stood for Committee in the House of Commons that day, and as it was second on the order book there was good hope it would be reached before it would be blocked by the half-past twelve o'clock rule, if a sufficient number of Members would have assembled to form a House. But for this 40 members are required, and only 36 were present, so the House was instantly counted out, and thus this important and useful measure was indefinitely postponed.

The Married Women's Property (Scotland) Bill has been more fortunate, and was read a second time, on May 27th, in the House of Lords.

#### CHURCHWARDEN.

In Canon Trevor's parish, in Bedford, a lady has been appointed churchwarden.—*Queen*.

#### TRAFFIC IN ENGLISH GIRLS.

In the House of Lords, on May 30th, a most important discussion took place on this painful topic.

The EARL of DALHOUSIE moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the law relative to the protection of young girls from artifices to induce them to lead a corrupt life, and into the means of amending the same." He recapitulated the terrible details of the manner in which this traffic is carried on, to which we have from time to time called attention, and the efforts which Mr. Snagge of the English Bar, who was appointed last year by the Foreign Secretary, had made to procure his evidence. Mr. Snagge had obtained the names and ascertained the truth of the stories of thirty-two, all of whom were under the age of twenty-one when decoyed. These cases were contrary even to the Belgian law, which did not permit the registration of girls under that age. This was not all. In one year—1879—no fewer than twenty-four English girls, only seven of whom were under age, were registered in Brussels alone. He (the Earl of Dalhousie) had seen fac-similes of letters sent by procurers to their clients, and they referred to the unfortunate girls as if they were cattle. There was a regular price, "300 francs each piece," or, in other words, £15

for every girl landed at Ostend. There could be no doubt about the business-like way in which the detestable traffic was carried on. Two of the girls mentioned by Mr. Snagge were decoyed from England under pretence of getting good situations in respectable hotels; three believed that they were to become actresses; four that they were going to good places as servants. It appeared that the women in the houses of ill-fame on the Continent were treated like cattle, and that those who had been decoyed from England were practically in captivity. After showing that both our statute and common law are incapable of meeting the evil, and remarking that the procurers are well aware of this fact, the noble earl said that Mr. Snagge suggested the passing of a Bill defining the term "common prostitute," and making it a criminal offence to induce any woman to become a common prostitute, whether within the Queen's dominions or not. Mr. Snagge thought that not only punitive but also preventive measures should be taken.

The EARL of SHAFTESBURY and the BISHOP of PETERBOROUGH concurred in saying that the Earl of Dalhousie had even under-stated the horrible nature of the case. Lord Shaftesbury added that registration offices in London often consigned young women to houses of ill-fame. If there was any being pure on the face of the earth it was an Irish girl from the rural districts of Ireland, and yet those girls were imported by the score into this country. They came over in answer to advertisements for "good situations," and the procuresses who were waiting for them took them to registry offices. He suggested that the registry offices should be compelled to keep an account of the destination of the girls, but those were matters for the Committee. The BISHOP of PETERBOROUGH said the trade was not confined to foreigners against English girls, but was carried on by Englishmen against foreign girls. In England it prevailed beyond the metropolis. It had spread into the country, and he had heard of procuresses waiting at railway stations for the purpose of entrapping young and innocent girls.

EARL GRANVILLE said that when the memorial was

presented to him last autumn, he had been afraid the statements were exaggerated, but after strictest inquiry he had found there was no exaggeration whatever.

The motion for the Committee was agreed to.

The *Daily News* observed :

"The law in England is defective as regards the protection of young girls in such cases as these. Even in foreign countries there is more protection than our laws afford. In many Continental States there are penalties imposed for the harbouring of young women under twenty one. There are no such restrictions in England. Statute law and common law, it appears, are alike powerless to check the horrible traffic of which we have spoken. Once the girls are over a certain very tender age, there seems to be no way of guarding them against the creatures who ply this loathsome trade. The late Government, as well as the present Government, set inquiries on foot in different Continental towns, and satisfied themselves of the grim reality of the traffic. What Lord Dalhousie asked for yesterday was a Select Committee to inquire into the state of the law, and into the whole subject, and see what can be done. The intention, originally was that the Committee should inquire only into the condition of things in other places with a view of protecting English girls against being enticed away into foreign haunts of vice. Lord Granville, however, very properly agreed yesterday that the Committee should also inquire into the practices going on in England by means of which foreign girls are decoyed into our great cities to their destruction. It was quite time that some distinct and resolute step should be taken. The conscience of the public took a good long time before it became thoroughly awakened. As we have already said, one reason for this was that the whole subject is painful, is one from the slightest inquiry into which many persons naturally shrink. Perhaps we in this country are a little too sensitive and too prudish in dealing with so grave a question. At all events public feeling now is thoroughly awakened.

#### BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meetings of this association were held on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of May, in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, E.C. On the first day, Mrs. Aukland presided at the opening prayer meeting, and Mrs. Lucas at the subsequent discussions. On May 18th the proceedings opened with a legislative council for the executive committee and delegates only, which was followed by a prayer meeting, presided over by Mrs. Gregson, and by a conference, at which Mrs. Thorp, of York, took the chair. Mrs. Parker (of Dundee) read a paper on "Our Future Work."

On the 19th the morning conference was presided

over by Miss Emily Foot; and Miss Firth, Superintendent of the London Association for Nurses, gave an address on the "Medical Aspects of Temperance." At the afternoon conference, Miss Tod, of Belfast, took the chair, and Mrs. Anderson read a paper on "Temperance Teaching in Schools;" and Miss Ellen Webb, another on "Temperance in the House."

#### NATIONAL DRESS SOCIETY.

*Provisional Committee*: Mrs. Glover, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. Alfred Illingworth, Mrs. Lewin, Mrs. Duncan McLaren, Mrs. Charles McLaren, Clara Lady Rayleigh, Miss Wilson.

*President*: Lady Harberton.

*Hon. Treasurer (pro. tem)*: Mrs. Haweis.

*Hon. Secretary*: Mrs. E. M. King, 34, Kildare Terrace, Bayswater.

Under the above name, an association of ladies has lately been formed, whose object is to promote the adoption, according to individual taste and convenience, of a style of dress based upon considerations of health, comfort, and beauty, and to deprecate constant changes of fashion, which cannot be recommended on any of these grounds. In the matter of dress, so large a majority of women are swayed by public opinion and received usage, that an association, carefully and rationally conducted, as this is, may do useful work, by creating a public opinion, even of a minority, in favour of a healthy and simple dress. Women of force of mind, and active occupations, have undoubtedly already found out a simple and convenient style of dress for themselves, and do not stand in need of a society, but many, who wish to be simple without being eccentric, let "I dare not wait upon I would," and will be very grateful for the establishment of an association to sanction their efforts. The Society will seek to promote its objects, among other ways, issuing patterns which meet the approval of the committee. A first model may be seen at Hamilton and Co's., 27, Mortimer Street, W. All ladies interested in the subject should write to Mrs. King, the hon. secretary.

#### NURSING.

**TRAINED NURSES FOR THE SICK POOR.**—By permission of the Duke of Westminster, the annual meeting of the Metropolitan and National Nursing Association for providing and training nurses for the sick poor, was held on May 26th, at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. The association was formed in 1875, with the object of supplying a body of skilled nurses to take charge of the sick poor at their own homes, and of raising the standard of nursing as well as the social position of nurses. It has already attained a place of high and thoroughly recognized usefulness; and according to the fifth annual report, which was read yesterday, its main purpose had been efficiently accomplished. It has been universally acknowledged by medical men and others under whom the nurses of this organization have worked, that the nursing is of the very highest order that has yet been known, and that sanitary laws have been taught to the poor, and enforced in their homes in a way which has never before been achieved in the metropolis. The committee earnestly appeal to the public to supply them with the means of carrying on a work which has already done so much, and whose further extension is only delayed by want of the necessary funds.

**THE NIGHTINGALE HOME.**—The Council of the Nightingale Fund held their annual meeting a few days since, at the Nightingale Home, St. Thomas's Hospital, when the report on the Nurse Training School for the year 1880 was read, and addresses were delivered to the probationer nurses. Sir Harry Verney, M.P., the chairman of the council, presided; he was accompanied by Lady Verney, Mr. Bowman, F.R.S., Sir W. M. Muir, K.C.B., and Mr. W. Rathbone; Mr. Henry Bonham Carter, the secretary; Mrs. Wardroper, lady superintendent of the school; and Mr. Croft, F.R.C.S., the medical instructor, one of the surgeons of St. Thomas's Hospital. Besides the probationer nurses resident in the school, many of the former pupils, who are now employed in various institutions, were present. The report mentioned that during the year 1880, twenty-five proba-



tioner nurses had completed their training, so as to entitle them to be placed on the register as certified nurses, and had been appointed to situations. Thirty-nine admissions to the schools had taken place, and some having resigned or been discharged, there were 33 probationers in residence at the end of the year. The course of instruction, it was mentioned, consists mainly of practical work in the wards, under the direction of the ward sisters, supplemented by class teaching from the house sister, Miss Crossland, and by short lectures, both in class, and clinical, from some of the medical officers. Among the superior appointments obtained during the year by former probationers, were those of matron to Westminster Hospital, matron to the Lincoln County Hospital, assistant matron to Liverpool Workhouse Infirmary, and lady superintendent to the Metropolitan and National Nursing Association for Providing Trained Nurses for the Sick Poor, Bloomsbury Square. Sir Henry Verney, after reading an interesting letter, addressed to the probationers by Miss Nightingale, referred to the cordial relations existing between the school and the authorities and staff of the hospital, and the obligations which the council was under to the matron of the hospital, Mrs. Wardroper, for the continued efficiency of the school. Mr. Bowman expressed the thanks of the council to the medical officers of the hospital who had taken part in the instruction of the pupil nurses.

THE LADIES' SANITARY ASSOCIATION.—The prizes and certificates adjudged to candidates by Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S., in connection with a course of lectures recently delivered by him to the members of this association, were distributed on May 10th, by Her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, in the Lecture Hall of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi. There was a large attendance, principally of ladies, the hall being well filled. Lord Aberdare presided. Dr. Richardson, in the course of a short address, stated that the course of lectures just closed, was one of several that had been delivered before the association. Nearly 300 pupils regularly attended them. No fewer than 75 competitors (ladies and gentlemen), with a grand total of over 1,500 closely written competitive pages,

entered the field in friendly contest, and all the essayists had shown that they had a sound knowledge of the relative values of the substances used as foods, the circulation of the blood, the process of breathing, with the conditions which produce a clear and healthy dwelling, and the management of a sick room. Of these competitors, 45 were successful, and 43 of these were women. The Princess then distributed the prizes, of which there were five; the first of ten guineas and the second of five guineas being awarded to Miss Martin and Miss C. Mallett; and besides these there were 16 first-class and 19 second-class certificates.

#### SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.

The annual meeting was held at the Office, 22, Berners Street, on Friday, the 13th ultimo. The President, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, was in the chair, and the proceedings were opened by the reading of the Report by the Secretary, Miss G. J. King.

Mr. FREDERICK HILL, in moving its adoption, bore testimony to the great advance in all matters relating to the employment of women during the last thirty-five years, detailing his own experience as Inspector of Prisons at that time, when in Glasgow Prison no less than forty women, whose term of punishment had expired, preferred to remain in the gaol because they had no occupation and no position outside; the work they did was quite sufficient for their support, but their detention in the gaol being illegal, they were necessarily dismissed, but within a month they were almost all back again, having secured their re-admission by some breaking of the law. He also stated that at that time Mr. W. Chambers would gladly have employed women as printers—an industry in which they have now been found thoroughly efficient—but was deterred by the jealousy of the workmen, which forbade the experiment. He pointed out that a Society which had continued its work for so many years, and which was fostered by the sympathy and aid of the Queen herself, could no longer be ignored or sneered at.

Sir RAINALD KNIGHTLEY, M.P., said a few words in commendation of the Report in seconding the motion of its adoption, and was followed by the Rev. Brook Lambert, who proposed the re-election of the Committee, and pointed to the amount of work of various kinds done at the Office at a cost ludicrously small, the present income of the Society being considerably under £400. He also urged the great need there was for its continued efforts, the Census of 1881 showing a continued increase of the excess of women in the population. He was ably seconded by Mr. Rowland Hamilton, who pointed out the variety of work undertaken by the Committee, its judicious experiments, and above all, its thoroughness and reliability.

The Rev. SEPTIMUS HANSARD, who testified his interest in the work by coming to the meeting, though still sadly weakened by his late severe illness, in a characteristic and cordial speech moved a vote of thanks to the noble President, recalling the great services he had done to every good cause during his long public life. He concluded by expressing a hope that the Society which had had a true friend in him from its foundation, might long continue to profit by his large experience and kindly interest.

Mrs. WILLIAM BURBURY followed with a short speech, in which she expressed the gratitude of the Committee to the Earl of Shaftesbury for the interest he always manifested in the progress of the Society, and alluding to the recent introduction of women students into the art of wood engraving. She pointed out that at present so much foreign work was employed, owing to the scarcity of English wood engravers, that in this industry at least there could be no danger that women should be charged with supplanting men.

LORD SHAFTESBURY said that he was very glad to be among them, and wished that he could have done a great deal more for the Society in time and in other ways, that his sympathies were altogether with them, that he knew many societies which, with ten times their income, did not do half the good, and that he hoped that they would be much better supported. In commenting on the introduction of waitresses, as proposed

in the Report, he said that when he entered the House of Commons in 1826, the refreshment room was entirely served by women, and that the waiting was in all respects excellent.

The office was ornamented with specimens of carving, of china painting, of wood-engraving, plan tracing, &c., &c.

#### PRISON MISSION, WANDSWORTH.

Lord SHAFTESBURY recently presided at the annual meeting of the Prison Mission, which was held in its cheerful mission hall, in Wandsworth Road, near Vauxhall Station. Lord Norton, Sir Henry Selwyn Ibbetson, M.P., Sir John Kennaway, M.P., the Rev. R. C. Billing, the Rev. Burman Cassin, the Rev. Canon Hussey and the Chairman, all from different points of view bore testimony to the importance of the work carried on by the ladies of this association. The Prison Mission offered women discharged from prison immediate employment at the wage of one shilling a day, in the laundry at Nine-Elms House. In this branch of its operations the institution was self-supporting, but money was wanting to extend the work. The average number of women employed daily in the laundry was forty, and during the year 1880, the money wages paid amounted to £664; £66 was expended in providing lodgings, and £47 in food supplied as part compensation for labour. For reasons subsequently stated by Mrs. Meredith, the hon. general treasurer, the washing done is exclusively for the sick poor, the work being performed gratuitously for poor persons in the surrounding district, and it is the washing done for hospitals on a low scale of payment which yields an income to the mission. In this way £1865 was received, which, besides meeting all expenses of working, providing for repairs, and yielding five per cent. interest on a capital of £1000, gave £264 as net profit.

The women are lodged in the families of working people living near the laundry. With few exceptions the relations thus established had been in different ways beneficial to both classes, and it was now comparatively easy to place the women in the homes of respectable people. Not more, however, than about twenty-five

per cent. passed into ordinary society. An important fact proved by the working of this institution was that mature female criminals might be restrained and supported, not only without pecuniary loss, but with actual gain outside the prison walls; and it was urged that an extension of the operations of this institution would tend to reduce the great proportion of commitments to prison of women as compared with men, and would open the way for a new system of penal discipline. Compulsory daily attendance at work under suitable influence would be made practicable, and would take the place of a system of prolonged incarceration, which was unnatural and inefficient. It was mentioned that the Queen of Sweden and Norway, who devoted nearly four hours to an examination of this institution on the previous day, had sent a lady to spend some months in studying the mission work carried on by Mrs. Meredith and the ladies associated with her in conducting this and kindred institutions.

THE Christian Women's Union last week held a conference in the Nine Elms Mission Hall, Wandsworth, chiefly upon the subject of rescue and penitentiary work. Papers were read and addresses given by Mrs. Steward of Ongar, Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, Miss Ellice Hopkins, Mrs. Swinburne of Brighton, Mrs. Stewart of Glasgow, Mrs. H. J. Wilson, and many others.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

EARLY SHOPPING IN THE WEST END.—A movement has been set on foot by ladies at Kensington to form an association the members of which pledge themselves not to shop after 6 p.m., and the first public meeting under its auspices was held in the British Schools, Kensington, Mr. H. C. Richards, Barrister-at-law, in the chair. The speakers, with the exception of Mr. J. A. Stacey, of the Early Closing Association, were all ladies, and two resolutions approving of the work of the new association were carried.

DEATH OF MRS. MARY SEACOLE.—The trustees of the fund established some time since in behalf of Mrs. Mary Seacole wish it to be known that she died on the 14th May. The deceased, it will be remembered, greatly

distinguished herself as a nurse on the battle-field and in hospitals during the Crimean war. A Creole, she was born in Jamaica early in the present century, and from childhood was instructed by her mother in the art of nursing. In 1855, after it had been announced that no more nurses were required in the Crimea, she established a mess-table and comfortable quarters for sick and convalescent officers at Balaclava, where she landed in the month of February. She was present at many battles, and at the risk of her life often conveyed the wounded off the field. Before Sebastopol she was a patient nurse among those stricken with cholera, and when she returned to England after the peace, she was ruined in fortune and injured in health. The fund already referred to was then started, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Duke of Cambridge being patrons. In 1857 she published an autobiography, entitled "Wonderful Adventures in Many Lands," the preface being written by Dr. W. H. Russell. The sum raised for Mrs. Seacole enabled her to end her days in ease and comfort.—*Daily News*.

PROFESSOR STEADMAN ALDIS, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, has in contemplation a new undertaking to which we wish all success. He proposes, in conjunction with his wife, to form a "Women's Reading Party," this summer, at some quiet bathing place on the coast of Normandy.

HOME FOR GERMAN GIRLS.—On May 12th, a Home for German girls who are engaged in business during the day, was opened at Gordon House, Endsleigh Gardens, Euston Square, W.C., by the Committee, headed by Mr. John Shrimpton, who has already done so much in this way for English girls. The homes previously founded were Alexandra House, 81, St. John Street, West Smithfield, E.C.; Victoria House, 135, Queen's Road, Bayswater, W.; and Morley House, 14, Fitzroy Street, Fitzroy Square, W. The object of the committee is to provide homes in the various districts of the metropolis for girls and young women who are earnestly striving to gain an honest living, but who are homeless; at the same time to afford them profitable recreation, and above all to surround them with healthful influences and friendly guidance at the most critical

period of their lives. The rent of a bedroom, comprising the use of dining and reading rooms, supplied with books, magazines, and newspapers, is at the rate of 2s. 6d. and 4s. per week. Board, consisting of breakfast, dinner, and tea (Sundays included), is charged at the rate of 4s. 6d. per week, while separate meals are provided for those who do not require the full weekly accommodation. The funds for opening this new Home at Gordon House, Endsleigh Gardens, Euston Square, W.C., were largely due to the generosity of the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen. Any persons who know of respectable working German girls who are not well cared for, could not do them a better service than to inform them of the existence and objects of Gordon House.

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The first annual meeting of the London Young Women's Christian Association was held at the Finsbury Institute, 31, Finsbury Square, on May 27th, the Lord Mayor presiding. The object of this organisation is to elevate the condition of the young women who are engaged in the shops and warehouses of London; its agencies are Bible classes, library, secular classes, and various means of recreation. Two hundred young women have been enrolled as members, and these have contributed their handiwork in furnishing a bazaar, the proceeds of which enabled the committee to make several long-needed purchases. The report, which set forth in detail the first year's work of the association, having been read by the Rev. R. C. Billing, vicar of Spitalfields, the Rev. Canon Fleming drew attention to the increased interest which had of late years been shown in the moral, spiritual, social, and intellectual status of women, and made an earnest appeal with a view of enabling such an institution to carry on its beneficent labours.

WOMEN IN STRIKES.—Every Trades Union of a trade in which women are employed, ought as a matter of course to admit women either among its members, or, if this cannot be done, to found a corresponding union for them, because when strikes occur, throwing the men in the trade out of work, the women are necessarily also brought to a standstill, and therefore, they ought

to be consulted whether the strike should take place, and take a share, in whatever advantage, if any, it brings. Another instance of the way in which women's work was stopped by a movement in which they had no share, was afforded by the strike of the tenters in the North of Ireland. At a meeting in Belfast on May 11th, one of the speakers, Mr. Beauman, "regretted that the strike had continued so long, because thousands of girls had, as a consequence of the action of the tenters, been thrown out of work. He thought that the tenters should have consulted the other trades unions before the strike took place." Another speaker observed that it was well known that thousands of girls had been before now thrown out of work by the action of the flax-dressers.

ADULT SUFFRAGE.—A general conference of delegates from trade societies, clubs, and associations, was held on June 10th, in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, for the purpose of deciding on a united course of action. Among the resolutions passed was the desirability of establishing adult suffrage (as distinct from manhood suffrage only), which would give to men and woman equal political rights. It was passed by a majority which included nearly the whole meeting, only five voting against it.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

- "Life of William Whewell," by Mrs. Stair Douglas.—*Kegan Paul.*
- "Madam De Sévigné," by Miss Thackeray.—*Blackwood.*
- "Denmark and Iceland," by E. C. Otté.—*Sampson Low.*
- "Ladies on Horseback," by Mrs. Power O'Donoghue.—*Allen & Co.*
- "The Future Marquis," by Catherine Childar.—*Hurst & Blackett.*
- "Sydney," by Georgiana Craik.—*Hurst & Blackett.*
- "A Rose in the Sawdust," by Mrs. Crampton Reade.—*Tinsley.*
- "A Woman's Requital," by Helen Dickens.—*Skeet.*
- "David Broome, artist," by Mrs. Robert O'Reilly.—*Sampson Low.*
- "Sam's Sweetheart," by Miss H. B. Mathew.—*Remington.*
- "Passion Flowers," by Mrs. A. Fraser.—*Remington.*
- "Reseda," by Mrs. Randolph.—*Hurst & Blackett.*
- "Policy and Passion," by Mrs. Campbell Praed.—*Bentley.*
- "The Crowned Hippolytus," by M. F. Robinson.—*Kegan Paul.*
- "Amied's Little Girl," by Miss M. Campbell.—*J. White.*
- "The Two Victors," by Mrs. B. Bennjamin.—*J. White.*
- "Uncle Anthony's Note Book," by Mary Caumont.—*J. White.*
- "Alice Warner," by Mrs. John Allen.—*J. White.*



## REVIEWS.

*Doctor Victoria, a picture from the Period*, by MAJOR-GENERAL G. G. ALEXANDER, C.B. Samuel Tinsley.

THIS is a good book, readable and pleasant, and although the heroine is a woman who devotes herself to one of the highest callings a woman can adopt, the author skilfully evades the difficulties that frequently beset the writer of a novel with a purpose, by commanding all our interest for the heroine and her work, as it gradually shapes itself under her hand. The style is smooth and easy, and in its occasional digressions from the main point of the story to other topics, we feel we are meeting the experience of a man who has meditated long and profitably on political and social subjects. It is the story of a girl who, losing all that is dear to her in life (by-the-bye, we must enter a protest against the theory that this is a necessary preliminary to steady self-devotion to a cause), is driven by her need of mental work to train as a hospital nurse. When her energy and courage return under the hard discipline, she discovers the need that other women have of her services in a higher capacity than that of nurse, and so for their sakes she leaves the hospital and goes to study at Zurich.

Some of the descriptions are very good. Professor Sharpe, who disliked all women who did not "keep their proper places," and spoke to them "as if they were intelligent babies who had been permitted to increase in size." We have all of us, too, met Mrs. Wainscott, the matron,

Mrs. Wainscott herself, though trained in a school, which made her readily accept this position of inferiority assigned to her sex, and so strongly insisted on by the professor, was a remarkable instance of the amount of beneficial work which may be effected in a large institution by a clever energetic woman. Every thing over which she had charge was in perfect working order. The discipline of the nurses left nothing to be desired. The wards were models of comfort, cleanliness and order, and apart from the skill of the medical officers, much of the reputation which belonged to St. Tobias, was due to her watchful sympathetic care, and to her great administrative ability.

And yet it was supposed by Professor Sharpe—and all those Professor Sharpes who are to be found in the world under other names—that she had no right to think!

The reader may take up this novel, and feel when he has finished it that his time has not been misspent, and that he has gained several new ideas, and learned to look at some well-worn subjects in a fresh light.

*The History of Women's Suffrage, Vol. 1*, edited by ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, and MATILDA JOSLYN GAGE. Fowler and Wells, New York.

We have just received this carefully-prepared record of the beginning of a great movement. It is enriched with photographs of all the principle women-workers in America. We hope to review it in our next.

*Sick Nursing at Home*, by S. F. A. CAULFIELD. *The Bazaar Office*, 170, Strand, W.C.

The above contains not only directions for the better management of the invalids, but very plain and sensible suggestions how to prevent becoming invalids, in these common rules for health which are so frequently neglected, although, or perhaps *because*, they are so obvious. It contains also good suggestions for sick cookery, and also advice on the best course to pursue in case of sudden accidents, which may prove very useful to persons who have not yet had the opportunity of attending the St. John's Ambulance lectures.

*The Dictionary of Needlework*, published in monthly parts, price 1s. L. Upcott Gill, *The Bazaar Office*, 170, Strand.

This Dictionary of which three numbers are already issued, is, as it professes to be, a perfect encyclopædia of plain and fancy needlework. For the clearness of the text, no less than for the beauty of the illustrations, it surpasses any Dictionary of the kind we have hitherto seen. It is written by S. F. A. Caulfield, author of various papers on needlework, &c., and by B. C. Saward, author of "Church Festival Decorations," and they are assisted by several ladies. The various fabrics used for clothing are well described, but, as may be expected, by far the largest portion is given to fancy needlework; and here the designs are so exact, that it appears very easy, by a careful study, to copy the stitches without any further teaching. In the first volume, which appeared in April, we have, with careful designs, various

kinds of appliqué work, and every variety of Berlin wool work; and in the second, braiding, brocades, and Brussels and Buckinghamshire lace, with appropriate illustrations. Any lady who has time and inclination for art needlework, and cannot study at the South Kensington classes, would do well to purchase this book.

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

In the French Senate, lately, M. Lambert de Sainte-Croix brought forward an interpellation respecting the substitution of lay nurses in the Paris hospitals, in place of the members of religious sisterhoods, who had hitherto acted in that capacity. M. Constans, the Minister of the Interior, said he must decline to accept any responsibility for the acts of the Public Assistance Department provided they were legal, as was the case in the present instance. M. Buffet protested against the statement of the Minister that he was not responsible for the acts of his subordinates. The House then rejected the order of the Day pure and simple, moved by the Government, and passed an Order of the Day, proposed by M. Lambert de Sainte Croix, in favour of the retention of the sisters as hospital nurses.

On May 12, the Anti-Clerical Congress opened at the Grand Orient or Grand Lodge of the French Freemasons. Senator Schoelcher presided, and at his side was, as vice-president, Mdle. Maria Desraisme. The *Daily News* correspondent says, that "Mdle. Desraisme is a speaker of considerable power. She has the style of a woman formed in a debating society, is argumentative, clear in demonstration, and has the eloquence which comes from deep emotions and sentiments, and which goes straight to the hearts of those who listen. She has for many years, by her talents, superior education, and large fortune, occupied the highest seat on the woman's rights platform." Mdle. Deraisme has been proposed as a candidate at the next election, but she refuses to come forward. Even if successful, her election would probably be invalidated, and she will not waste the time and strength of her party in what would prove only a personal compliment.

### BELGIUM.

A Belgian lady artist, Mme. Henrotin, who exhibits under her daughter's name, Marie Collart, has just received the cross of "Chevalier of the order of Leopold." She paints animals extremely well, also landscapes.—*Gazette des Femmes*.

GERMANY.

From a Minden (Westphalia) correspondence, we glean that the first day of October next is a most important one for the married women, since on and after that day will expire the right hitherto enjoyed by them of claiming their "dowry" from the indebtedness of their bankrupt husbands. Those wives, and those only who were legally married previous to 1879, may recover their dowry in case of their husbands' bankruptcy, by having the amount properly registered at the Competent Court before Oct. 1. This formality will be all the more binding if the application be likewise signed by the husband, in cases where, owing to conjugal discord or obstinacy, such signatures cannot be appended, the application, if otherwise credible and its correctness admitted later on by the husband, will hold good. The Minden Press cautions all women to make application speedily, because, owing to the pressure of similar writs, the Courts are sure to be overrun with work, and the above date once expired, there will be no redress. For those among the "better halves" who married after January 1, 1879, and whose husbands are owners of real estate, a saving of their dowry can be effected by having their in-brought money or the money value of their furniture inscribed as "mortgage" on the estate. What hope is left to those wives married since 1879 and whose husbands own no real estate? Evidently their liege lords must, shall, and ought not to fail in business.

An American lady is attending the lectures of the celebrated physiologist, Professor Virchow, at Berlin—the first case of a female student at Berlin University.

HUNGARY.

WOMEN AS MUNICIPAL ELECTORS.—The question of the emancipation of women has made a great step in Croatia. They write from Agram to the *Correspondence Politique* of Vienna, that by virtue of the new Croatian electoral law, women will be for the first time called to take part as *electors* in the next general election of the municipal councils of their province. The electoral lists of Agram, capital of Croatia, were published last week. This town has 3,200 electors of whom 805 are women.—*Devoir*.

Some degree of political recognition seems always to have been given to women in Hungary. In *Unknown Hungary* Victor Tissot says, "It is not long ago since the privilege was abolished which the widows of magnates possessed, of being represented by proxy in the Lower Chamber by a person who had no other right than that of crying out from time to time as he twisted his moustache, 'Halyuk, halyuk!' (hear, hear) when his imagination was excited by some phrase or other which fell from the mouth of an orator. This singular proxy also occasionally stood in the place of some magnate unavoidably absent."

BULGARIA.

THE ladies in Bulgaria have not shown themselves indifferent spectators of the political deadlock between the Prince and the Constitutional Party. A deputation of ladies has presented an address to him signed by 325 women. It declares that they are

training their sons in such a manner that in the hour of danger they would all sacrifice their lives for the Prince and the Constitution. Each mother would, however, consider her son a traitor if he consented to the suppression of the Constitution.

#### AUSTRALIA.

DOWNING STREET, MAY 13.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal granting and declaring that the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Arts and Bachelor and Doctor of Medicine, of Laws, of Science, and of Music, granted or conferred by the University of Adelaide, South Australia on any person, male or female, shall be recognised as academic distinctions and rewards of merit, and be entitled to rank precedence, and consideration in the United Kingdom and in the colonies and possessions of the Crown throughout the world, as fully as if the said degree had been granted by any university of the United Kingdom.—*Gazette*.

Miss Marianne North, after several months of botanical sketching in Australia and New Zealand, is now working in the Sandwich Islands.

#### JAPAN.

JAPANESE FACTORY GIRLS.—*The Globe*, February 5th, says: The Japanese have just made another advance in their imitation of European customs. Up to the present time popular prejudice has greatly restricted the field for women's labour. In the interior, indeed, the weaker sex take part in agricultural operations, but at the great centres of industry men have monopolised almost the whole area of remunerative work. This system appears to be doomed, as some of the more enterprising manufacturers are offering employment to women, and so far as the experiment has yet been carried, these philanthropists have no cause to regret the venture. Their feminine *employées* are content with considerably lower wages, and yet work for the same time—twelve hours—as the masculine monopolists. Whether they turn out the same quantity is not stated, but in quality the result of their labours is said to compare not unfavourable with the average of men's work. So great has been the success of the experiment that several new factories, chiefly for the manufacture of cloth, are about to be built exclusively for the employment of women. A Factory Act will soon be needed, however, if it be true that the feminine hands now in employment are kept at work without intermission from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Japanese women, are not as a rule, very robust, and such prolonged labour as this must necessarily impose a severe strain even on the strongest.

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#### PARAGRAPHS.

THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS IN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS.—Mrs. Wm. Grey has written the

following instructive letter to many newspapers. We copy it for the benefit of those who may not have seen it:—Sir, All your readers interested in educational matters are probably aware that the University of Cambridge, recognising the necessity of special training for the profession of teaching as for every other profession, has instituted an examination for teachers of both sexes, on the results of which a certificate of proficiency in the theory and practice of education is awarded to the successful candidates; a step which the University of London has just decided to follow. But it is certainly not so well known that a college, founded by the Teachers' Training and Registration Society for the purpose of giving this professional training to women intending to be governesses or mistresses in higher class schools, has existed and been doing good work for the last three years, and that it sent up 24 students to the first Teachers' Examination held in Cambridge last year, 17 of whom passed successfully, both in the theory and practice of education, and were indeed the only candidates who passed in the practical part. The purport of this letter is to make that college, the only one of its kind in the country, better known to the general and professional public. It has hitherto occupied premises in Skinner Street, Bishopsgate, lent by the kindness of Mr. Rogers, Rector of Bishopsgate, by which it gained the use of the adjoining large Middle Class School for Girls as a practising school; but the council hope that the time is not far off when they will be able to place it in more conveniently-situated premises, and with a school of its own. It has been hitherto mainly supported by the generous contributions of friends and members of the parent society; but it was always intended to be ultimately self-supporting, and it requires only an increase in the number of students to become so. There is little reason to doubt that this increase would be easily obtained, could parents intending their daughters for the profession, or independent women preparing to enter it, be made duly acquainted with the advantages offered by the college. Its two main features are—1, its recognition by the University of Cambridge, which

secures its students admission to the examination; 2, the opportunity it offers of training in actual teaching, and thus of testing at once in practice, the theory and principles advanced by the lecturers. No expense has been spared by the council to make the teaching as efficient as possible, and the result has been so successful that the demand for teachers trained in the college is steadily increasing, and some are even bespoken before their college course is completed. One of the difficulties to be contended with here—as in every branch of professional education for women—is the unwillingness too often arising from inability, of parents to meet the expense, in addition to that already incurred for their daughters' general education, and to provide for these cases as far as possible, two scholarships varying from £10 to £20, that is, covering from one to two-thirds of the fees, have been given by friends and supporters of the scheme. It is in this form that pecuniary help could be most usefully given, as it would enable the college to extend its benefits to those who would otherwise be excluded by poverty. But it is not for pecuniary help, but for wider recognition, that I am pleading now. Let me remind parents who could afford the expense by making some present sacrifice, that it is only an investment of capital of which the return is sure, so great is the demand for good teachers created by the rapid increase of the high schools, and so liberal the salaries consequently offered to those who can give such a guarantee of efficiency as the successful students of this college. Those who would wish to inspect the college can do so on written application to the Principal, Training College, Skinner Street, E.C. The next term begins in September, and all particulars as to the college course, fees, scholarships, &c., may be obtained from Miss Brough, Secretary to the Teachers' Training and Registration Society, 1, Queen Street, Brompton Road.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

18, Cadogan Place,  
*June 9th.*

MARIA G. GREY.

THE  
ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.

(NEW SERIES.)

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No. XCIX.—JULY 15TH, 1881.

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ART. I.—INCREASE OF NATIONAL STRENGTH.

IN the old fairy story of "Fortunio," as also in its Norwegian prototype, the swift runner, Lightfoot, is in the habit of tying his legs together, because, "as he had the gift of running ten times faster than any deer," he is compelled to cripple himself "that he may not run so fast as to leave all the game he is in pursuit of behind him." Similarly, Marksman, "who can see at the distance of a thousand miles," ties a bandage over his eyes to make his sight less perfect, and fitted for ordinary use. But when the trial for life and death comes, Marksman unties his bandage, and Lightfoot unfastens his legs, and all their swiftness and unerring keenness of vision are required to win the race.

The English nation has behaved very much after the fashion of Lightfoot and Marksman. Proud of its power to outstrip other nations in the race of life, it has hitherto contentedly hampered itself, and taken away half its running force, by shutting women out of the course. Marksman, afraid of seeing too well, ties a bandage over his eyes. Similarly our English legislators, growing

"Pale,

Lest their own judgments should become too bright,"  
have ignored the opinions of women in passing their



acts and ukases. Women are totally different from men they assert; consequently, with admirable logic, they ignore the views of this "totally different order of beings," and refusing the binocular glass of the dual ideas of men and women, they look at nature, fact and feeling with one eye only. When a Home Secretary wishes to pass a Factory Act, which exclusively affects the labour of women and young persons, he receives only deputations from workmen and their masters. When they desire to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister, because some widowers wish to marry them, they shut their eyes to the fact that there are such persons as deceased husband's brothers, and that some widows may wish to marry them. If they pass a Regulation of Public Worship Bill, they exclude female parishioners, so that the class of worshippers who are most keenly sensitive to changes in religious ordinances, are deprived of all means of asserting their objections. If our medical faculty organise an international congress, they decline to admit women doctors, whom continental physicians gladly welcome under similar circumstances, convinced that they will bring important additions to the study of pathology. When laws affecting public education, public morality, reform of criminals, &c., &c., are discussed and revised, by refusing to look through the woman's eye as well as the man's eye, Parliament deprives itself of practical knowledge, combined with delicate intuition, and thus sometimes renders its best-meant efforts clumsy and incompetent.

The British Lightfoot, too, has for years insisted on running with half his strength only. He built and endowed magnificent schools, and sent boys only to study there, keeping their sisters at home to make puddings, play the piano, and do fancy work. He entrusted his health to one learned profession, his wealth to another, and his conscience to a third; but no woman might add to her instinctive skill and delicacy of touch the scientific knowledge that would elevate her nursing; no woman's footfall might echo in his law-courts, unless indeed as a prisoner; no woman was permitted to teach loving lessons of religion or morality from pulpit

or platform. He built prisons and poorhouses, and set men to manage them, and they multiplied indefinitely; he put men in the counting-house, on 'Change, in government offices, and gave them the whole business and conduct of the world; and from time to time he shook himself awake to find, on each awakening, that ignorance, drunkenness, pauperism, and vice were on the increase, in spite of his enormous material prosperity. And he wondered, when he saw the plains over-ripe for harvest, where all the hands were to come from to gather it in. In all the work he had to do he ignored the great force that was lying unused at home, the idle hands, and vacant minds, and hungering hearts which needed work to fill them, and to which that work was denied.

How great has been the loss of strength involved in thus excluding half the race from knowledge, and activity, and authority, we can only begin to conjecture. Forty years ago Macaulay pointed out the enormous power which the Catholic Church derived from its habit of enrolling women among its ruling forces.

Even for female agency there is a place in her system. To devout women she assigns spiritual functions, dignities, and magistracies. In our country, if a noble lady is moved by more than ordinary zeal for the propagation of religion, the chance is that, though she may disapprove of no one doctrine or ceremony of the Established Church, she will end by giving her name to a new schism. If a pious and benevolent woman enters the cells of a prison to pray with the most unhappy and degraded of her own sex, she does so without any authority from the Church. No line of action is traced out for her; and it is well if the Ordinary does not complain of her intrusion, and if the Bishop does not shake his head at such irregular benevolence. At Rome, the Countess of Huntingdon would have a place in the Calendar as St. Selina, and Mrs. Fry would be Foundress and first Superior of the Blessed Order of Sisters of the Gaols.

But now Lightfoot has waked up to find that other nations are approaching him in the race, and that if he is to hold his own, and vanquish the grim monsters of ignorance and pauperism and vice, he must put forward the whole of his strength. From time to time he has invited, nay urged women to come forward; the Corn Laws were represented to them as a "mother's question" that women ought to help; then ladies took a large share in the relief committees during the Irish

famine; then Miss Nightingale and her band of nurses showed how our military hospitals should be conducted. Gradually the demand for the co-operation of women grew louder: if enterprises were really to prosper, it was found that women as well as men must bear a hand. If our manufactures are to hold their own against foreign nations, there must be technical schools, and of these technical schools the women operators must get their share. If the education system is to be carried out successfully, there must be women on the School Boards, women-teachers in all the schools, and women on the boards of managers. If pauperism is to be contended against, or poverty relieved, there must be women-guardians, and the Duchess of Marlborough to form her relief committee of ladies. If social science questions are to be dealt with, women are invited to the congresses, and contribute the fruit of their experience. If the countless masses of the poor are to be reached, women are enrolled as deaconesses, bible-women, mission-workers, to a degree never hitherto dreamed of. If the gigantic evil of intoxication is to be overthrown, women must take up the crusade. If medical help is to be brought within the reach of the poorest, women must not only study medicine themselves, but assist to collect funds for the support of general hospitals. In short, if our nation is to hold its own against others in all peaceful enterprises, and vanquish not only its external, but its more-to-be-dreaded internal enemies, it must do so by enrolling women as fellow-workers to do their share in maintaining order, and carrying forward the law of progress; and not by carrying on single-handed the work that wants both hands to do it with thoroughness.

And, fortunately, the women are responding readily to the call. A new generation has grown up since the necessity of a more active participation by women in the world's work was first mooted, and this generation has been educated to feel that it has broader duties—duties to other women, duties to men, duties to children—to accomplish which they must bring, not less, but more self-devotion, sympathy, energy, and knowledge. As the demand grows the supply increases;

our high schools and colleges alone turn out, every year, hundreds of capable new workers, with shoulders strong enough to take up their share of the work.

Forty-five years ago, when Angelina Grimke added her inspired and passionate pleading for the rights of human beings to the anti-slavery movement, the General Association of Evangelical Clergymen in Massachusetts, promptly issued a pastoral letter, warning their members of the dangerous innovation. "We invite your attention to the dangers which at present seem to threaten the female character with wide-spread and permanent injury. When woman assumes the place and tone of man as a public reformer, our care and protection of her seem unnecessary; we put ourselves in self-defence against her; she yields the power which God has given her for protection, and her character becomes unnatural. We cannot therefore but regret the mistaken conduct of those who encourage females to bear an obtrusive and ostentatious part in measures of reform, and countenance any of the sex who so far forget themselves as to itinerate in the character of public lecturers and teachers." But Angelina Grimke lived to see not only slavery annihilated, but women as teachers, doctors, lawyers, preachers, and lecturers in every State. The history of the Sanitary Commission, which the American women organised during the war, is like the history of a great uprising.

But even now-a-days, the *Saturday Review* says, "The work of the world must be done by men, and woman's education, woman's character, and woman's place therein must be governed by the one paramount consideration—what will best enable them to fill their relations to the other sex." We are not in general disposed to accept the premises of the *Saturday Review's* arguments as the basis of our own conclusions; but, accepting this narrow and egotistic argument, we maintain that men do emphatically need that women should have a better education, stronger character, and higher place in order that they may bring a larger contribution to the common treasury. Men are just as dependent on women for their help as women are on men, and they begin at last to see

that women's assistance is not to be despised in organisation and propagandism. Setting aside the many associations which have been formed among women, with the single object of furthering exclusively "women's questions," and, turning to more general subjects, we now have National Health and Sanitary Societies, organised by women; Emigration Societies, ditto; Early Closing Associations, to diminish the hours of labour, ditto; Women's Temperance Associations, which spread a network of eager effort over the whole country; Women's Peace Associations; Prison Mission Associations; Domestic Economy Congresses; Ladies' Guilds, &c., &c. Women are organising themselves to open homes for the poor, refuges for the outcast, asylums for the destitute; they found scholarships, they open schools, they establish benefit clubs. More valuable still than separate and independent societies, composed of women only, are those in which they combine with men, for, as in a laboratory, the mixture of two chemical ingredients produces a third of much higher quality than either; so men and women, consulting and co-operating, produce much better work than either could separately. Mixed boards and committees of men and women have become very common. Seventy women are on the school boards; six boards of guardians, at least, have women members. Women enter with men into the Civil Service. Even a new building society has women among its directors. Hospital committees have more than once placed competent women on their medical staff. Women are even employed as lecturers by religious societies. In a speech lately delivered by Mrs. Booth, the indefatigable, if mistaken, leader of the Salvation Army, she said, "In several towns where I have stayed, gentlemen have told me of churches which were ransacking England to get a woman to preach, to compete with our army;" and though this sounds like an over-statement, it is certain that many of the orthodox Dissenters have invited women to speak and lecture for them.

On all sides men are saying, Come and help us, the labourers are too few for the harvest; we want your tact, your devotion, your unselfishness, your energy.

We need your aid to make the world better than it is :  
and the women are pressing forward to help.

One by one, and two by two,  
'To a mighty army grew.

It has been very gradual. Prejudice was like a dry, bare, hard rock, which barred all progress; but the lichens and tiny mosses crept up, and little trees began to grow, and, by-and-by, their branches caught fertilising showers which kept the ground green and fresh, and their rootlets penetrated and disintegrated the hard rock, and rendered it fit to produce food. Thus, little by little, the new order of things is coming in, mutual helpfulness in place of mutual ignorance and indifference; and, thus the mental and moral forces of the world will be doubled.

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## ART. II.—HEALTHY WORK FOR WOMEN.

SOME four years ago I began, through the Press and otherwise, to advocate new openings for women's labour, and especially those which would, while gaining for them independence, also secure the inestimable blessing of good health. We may safely say that a generation will be healthy, or otherwise, exactly in proportion to the health and strength of the parents, especially of the mothers. While indoor duties are freely urged upon women, I have always felt that the physical training and outdoor exercise were sadly neglected,—hence we have women of delicate organisations, with a distressing development of nerves, and small development of muscle.

The question of women's labour is a wide one, and cannot be fully entered on in this paper. Most people agree that healthy work for women which would combine the happy and healthy employment of all their powers would be an inestimable boon. It is true that women of some classes do labour, but with what result?—starvation wages in many cases, and lessen-

ing of their own strength and vitality, and too often premature death or hopeless discouragement in the end. I earnestly long to open up one new avenue to the women of this country, where they may not only gain robust health, but an honourable employment. NATURE IS ALWAYS KIND, and well repays her votaries.

My project is to invite co-operation in getting up a Company to secure an estate, not too far from London, where women could be trained in the delightful occupation of fruit, flower, and vegetable-culture, along with the keeping of cows, bees, &c. The whole should be conducted as a woman's business-enterprise. We need so much in this country to learn the dignity of labour, and, in this respect, I think women especially need a baptism of common sense. Let nothing be thought menial that we are able to do, or which is useful to ourselves or to another.

It has been said, "*that* man is a benefactor to his race who makes two blades of corn grow where only one grew before;" and surely the woman who can bless *one* city with an abundant, and therefore cheap, supply of fruit will be an equal blessing. Who can say to what extent such an enterprise as the one I propose may grow? Its success will be the clarion note for their establishment in every county. While our farmers are groaning under unprofitable seasons and competition, our women's fruit and dairy farms will, like the electric light, give a radiance to the sinking spirits of our land owners, while their produce is bringing new life and health to both giver and receiver.

It is important in these days of uncertain fortune that girls, as well as boys, should be trained to usefulness. It is pitiable to think of the inert useless lives of some young women, whose only aim seems to be to dress and eat—an incubus on the overtaxed resources of the poor father, and little help to the careworn mother, while they might be an additional strength to the family life, if their energies were turned in some useful channel.

*Labour stands on golden feet*, and, rightly directed, brings its own reward. Our sons are generally expected to enter some of the fields of labour, and their path is opened for them; but too little has been done for our

daughters. While Cambridge and Oxford are opening their hitherto closed doors to the enterprise of women in fields of literature, why should we not open means of industry and remunerative employment for the manual labour of women? It may be asked, has any woman shown her fitness for the kind of labour proposed? I answer many, both on the Continent and in America.

An intimate friend of mine, Mrs. M. Louise Thomas, of Tacony, near Philadelphia, has a farm of 20 acres, from the profits of which, for many years, she has not only been able to keep a large family, but to add to her capital. She can sell her eggs, butter, poultry, and other produce at better prices than her neighbour-farmers, on account of their excellence. During the Centennial Exhibition, this lady entertained upwards of 300 visitors at different times, and remarked that even this number of guests had made no perceptible difference to her, the supplies from her farm being so abundant.

The scarcity of fruit in this country is a thing to be regretted; and its use is a question of health to the Nation. Women in other countries raise fruit, poultry, eggs, honey, butter, &c., and we buy their produce; but would it not be more sensible to raise our own, and thus have it fresher, better, and cheaper, and keep the capital in the country? With this view I should like to start a Company, to be called "The Horticultural and Dairy Supply Association, Limited," as a woman's business enterprise, believing that it has in it the elements of success.

First.—It would form a new avenue for the employment of women which would not come into competition with any other industry, while it would relieve the already overcrowded and unprofitable pursuits of women.

Second.—There is one peculiarity about fruit that an increased supply increases the demand, thereby raising incalculably the standard of health throughout the country.

Thirdly.—The value of the estate would always be increasing.



I am glad to be reminded that Mr. Gladstone is of opinion that fruit, flower, and vegetable culture ought to be a lucrative employment in this country. He says that £1,704,000 worth of fruit is imported which ought to be grown at home; and a still larger quantity of foreign vegetables—in fact, £5,000,000 worth of fruit and vegetables—find their way into our markets. Is there not, then, an abundant field for this kind of labour? But I am asked, Are women fitted for this outdoor work? There is a great deal of nonsense talked about the weakness of women. It is like tying the feet, as they do in China, and then asking them to compete in a walking-match. Women that are shut up to indoor life, and the wear and tear of household work, might, at first, find outdoor labour trying; but I have seen the fishwives of Scotland who are stronger than most men. They could run a race and win, and carry a burden of fish that a London costermonger would be quite unable to lift; it is all a question of use. The blacksmith's arm is a fit illustration. If women could breathe country air, live wholesome lives, and use their muscles, the next generation would be a different order of beings in the matter of health and development. A doctor lately, in speaking to his students on the choice of a wife, said, "By all means look for good health in the person you marry; do not judge of her by only seeing her in her home, though that is important, but ask her to take a walk with you, and go smartly up some hill. If she can keep pace with you, and not get out of breath, *she will do.*" I expect that our girls trained at our fruit farm will be at a premium among sensible men. Regarding physical strength, I quote the following from a newspaper:—"The wife of a German farmer last autumn ploughed 17 acres of land; she mowed with a grass scythe for six days; she raked 10 acres of hay with a horse-rake; and did the work with a three-year-old colt which she broke-in herself, she having been the first to put harness on the animal. She loaded, unloaded, and teamed all the lime and sand required for a new house (20 feet by 30 feet); she loaded and unloaded all the grain and hay grown on her husband's farm this season, besides doing much

other similar work. This outdoor work was done in addition to the usual housework, including the milking, and caring for the milk, of seven cows."

But, while I urge the outdoor work, I would not neglect the domestic department; arrangements might be made that certain hours be devoted to indoor work. It may be said, What will you do in winter with the girls? That will be a most valuable time for learning domestic economy, having readings on horticulture, science, and all that bears on the various phases of their work; and, even in winter, there would be the preparation of early fruits, salads, hot-house flowers, and dairy work.

I will only add that it is of the first importance that the establishment should be conducted on total abstinence and food reform principles, and thus our fruit farms would become an educational power in many directions. It would also be desirable that co-operative principles should be carried out, that the workers should share in the profits. I trust shortly to form a provisional committee of sympathisers, when the basis of operations will be decided. Meanwhile, I would invite all interested in this work of self-help for women to aid me by making the matter known among their friends.

MRS. MARGARET E. PARKER,

Tay Villa, Brockley, S.E.

(Late of Dundee),

*President of the Women's International Christian Temperance Union.*

[Two hundred shares of this Company have been already taken.—ED.]

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### ART. III.—DOMESTIC ECONOMY CONGRESS.

THE third Domestic Economy Congress opened literally with a flourish of trumpets, on January 20th, at a *conversazione* in the Albert Hall, Kensington. The first Congress was held at Birmingham, in 1877, the second in Manchester, in 1880. On the present occasion a long list of subjects was announced, and preparations were

made for carrying through a great amount of work; no paper was to exceed 1000 words, no speech to be longer than 10 minutes. A committee of lady vice-presidents took the superintendence of each section.

The practical business of the Congress had really begun on the previous Thursday, in a most interesting lecture given by Mrs. Buckton, Member of the Leeds School Board, to a crowded audience in the little West Theatre, at the Albert Hall. It will be remembered that Mrs. Buckton herself initiated the hygiene lectures and the cookery classes which have been so eminently successful in Leeds, as well as the cultivation of window-gardening which affords such healthy and intelligent amusement to the children. She described the teaching of domestic economy in the Leeds Board Schools, where it is successfully taught under the headings of:—Fresh Air, Pure Water, Wholesome Food, Clean Houses, Clean Streets, Good Drains, Proper Clothing, Temperance, and Cleanly Habits; and she exhibited the models of houses, cooking stoves, and diagrams, which in many cases she had invented for the use of these classes.

On the 21st, the proceedings of the Congress commenced; the Countess of Airlie presided. The subjects under discussion were general methods of teaching and examining domestic economy, with special reference to its definition in the Educational Code. The author of the first paper was Lady Stuart Hogg, and it deplored the ignorance of our working classes in domestic economy compared with the corresponding classes in France and Germany, and advocated the compulsory teaching in State schools of all subjects of practical utility. There was no discussion, and another paper was read, being "Suggested outlines of a plan for establishing women's inspection of the teaching of domestic economy by counties proposed by some members of the executive committee of the Congress." It proposed that all public elementary girls' schools or departments, as respects the teaching of domestic economy, be under the sole inspection of women; that in mixed schools the examination and inspection of all work below Standard III. be assigned to women; that there should be a central office for examination and inspection in every county, and

large towns; that any new system should be organized at practical South Kensington, and not at Whitehall, where domestic economy was better understood and encouraged 40 years ago than it is now; and that there should be a local anniversary exhibition, with prize and certificate scheme. Another paper was read by the Rev. Newton Price upon county organisations for teaching domestic economy, urging that the subjects of health, needlework, and cookery should be taught by illustrated lectures; that all experiments should be inexpensive; and that teachers in cookery should be qualified by apprenticeship. A somewhat discursive discussion followed. A lady (Mrs. Cooper) pointed out that hundreds of working-class girls are eager to learn domestic economy, but can find no one to teach them. Another (Miss Kenrick) thought that the present system of inspection would be better than the divided authority proposed in the outlines, and a third lady (Miss Wright) was of opinion that domestic economy might well take the place of some so-called accomplishments in private ladies' schools. In a paper entitled "The need of domestic economy in bringing up pauper children," Miss Andrews (guardian of St. Pancras) asserted that pauper children are indoctrinated into habits of waste in the workhouses. The next paper, read by Miss Barnett, was contributed by Mrs. Greenup, who proposed that the National School for Cookery should be transformed into a National Training College for Teachers of Domestic Economy. Mr. W. J. Harrison read his prize paper, "On the Itinerant Method of Teaching Domestic Economy in Public Elementary Schools." A prize paper, "On the Teaching of Domestic Economy," by Miss E. M. Brant, Board School, Great Berkhamstead, Herts, was well received, it being a remarkably graphic treatment of a common-place subject like the cleaning of a room, as demonstrated on a black board. The Rev. J. Fauntorpe also read a paper on "Examination and Inspection in Relation to Domestic Economy," sent by the Rev. Mr. McCarthy, Vice-Chairman of the Birmingham School Board. Then came a paper by Mrs. Rowland Williams, President of the Northern Union of Schools of Cookery, on "The Code and Domestic Economy," indicating how

the Education Department might assist in promoting the desired objects. A historical paper as to what has been officially done with respect to domestic economy was read by Sir Henry Cole; and the subject of domestic economy in schools and training colleges was treated by Miss H. Martin, of Whiteland's College, in a practical paper. This ended the somewhat exhaustive programme.

The second day's work opened under the presidency of the Duchess of Leeds, supported by the Countess of Airlie. The audience was very small, but it settled steadily to work, for thirteen papers had to be disposed of between eleven and three o'clock. Miss Stanley, of Whiteland's College, dealt with the subject of "Needlework Certificates for Teachers," the importance of which she insisted upon. She recommended granting certificates for needlework to teachers. A translated description of the state of needlework in France, written by Madame Guizot de Witt, was read by Miss Mansell, the authoress expressing the opinion that there is more to be done in her country in needlework than in cookery or other subjects. It stated that in all the large towns there was Government inspection of needlework by lady inspectors, and general proficiency in the art was attained by the girls before leaving school. The progress of needlework teaching in Birmingham Board Schools was described by Miss Kenrick. The assessor (Rev. Newton Price) inviting discussion, a lady whose name was not announced advocated the teaching of sewing and knitting to boys. Several persons in the audience hereupon stated that in many schools boys are taught knitting, and that such accomplishments are not at all uncommon amongst men. For example, Lady Airlie (through the assessor) said that her coachman knits all the stockings for his family; and a lady who nursed in the Franco-Prussian war stated that the German soldiers were much assisted towards recovery by their aptitude at knitting; while the French, being unable to use their hands in the same way, were placed at a disadvantage. The reading of papers was now resumed, "Simultaneous teaching of needlework," by Miss A. M. Sempill; and "Notes on Clothing and Dress," by Miss Cole, which,

though an exceedingly laconic paper, induced a long and lively discussion. The next paper was an account of the teaching of plain needlework in the Netherlands by Madame Van Eyk-Hardeman; and at its close the Rev. Mr. Lawrence, who announced himself as the Secretary of the Church of England Funeral Reform Association, recommended the claims of that Society, and begged ladies to give up wearing crape. The next contribution was on the teaching of needlework in elementary schools, by Mrs. Erskine, who argued that the sewing machine had been a blessing in many senses to the poor, but also a curse in the encouragement it gave to reckless extravagance; and the next was a prize paper by Miss Currie, of Dumbarton, entitled "How I teach sewing." The other papers were not read, but at three o'clock Mrs. Floyer, of the London Institute for the Advancement of Plain Needlework, gave a lecture which was practically a "demonstration" on the subject.

The evening meeting was held at the Society of Arts, the majority of those present being ladies. The subject was Food and Cookery. Lady Reay was announced as president, but in her absence Mrs. Mann took the chair. The proceedings were opened by the reading of a paper written by Miss Bunclie, of the Episcopal School, Dumbarton. It was announced that this paper, which was read by Miss Yates, had obtained one of the eight prizes awarded by the Society of Arts for a proper account of teaching cookery. Mr. Newton Price deplored the paucity of the information with regard to cookery in the inspectors' reports as published in the Blue-books of the Education Department. That information the Congress wished to supplement, and with this object proper forms had been sent round to the School Boards, and also to the inspectors throughout the country. The result had been that they had obtained a mass of interesting information which it was intended to arrange with a view to its presentation to the Education Department. It was satisfactory to discover, from the reports before them, that considerable enthusiasm existed among the supporters of the cause throughout the country. There appeared to be about three hundred

schools in England in which cookery was taught. A second prize paper was then read by Miss Martin, recounting her experiences at Whiteland's College, Chelsea, in the teaching of cookery. Dr. Frances Hoggan laid particular stress upon the importance of giving instruction in the cooking of vegetables. Papers by Miss Clive Bayley, Miss E. Barnett, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. F. Debenham, Mr. A. Cole, and Miss Yates were also read. From these it appeared that the progress made was considered satisfactory, although the result was naturally not uniformly as striking as in the case of a young lady pupil whose mother was stated in one of the reports to have "wept" on tasting a poached egg prepared by the skilled hands of her daughter.

Not yet exhausted by this day of hard work, the Congress met again the following morning in the West Theatre of the Albert Hall. The subject for discussion was domestic economy, as applied to the dwelling house, its warming, cleaning, and ventilation. The president of the section, Mrs. Dacre Craven, read the first paper, showing from a nurse's point of view how dwellings and schools in large towns should be warmed, cleaned, and ventilated. Upon the stage there were models of working men's houses and cooking apparatus. The object of Mrs. Craven's paper was to show that books and lectures are of comparatively little use, and that domestic economy, to be taught effectively, must be practically demonstrated to school children. Papers were contributed by Miss Pilkington on "The Walton School Laundry," and by Miss Martin on "Washing day in Cottages and Small Dwellings—some hints upon the Method of Teaching Washing." These papers raised the question of public laundries, the general opinion being that there should be at least one such establishment in every parish, at which poor children might be taught the art of washing. A lady in the audience pointed out the difficulty of finding time for children in elementary schools to learn all these extra accomplishments, and the hardship of oppressing them with such subjects as practical laundry work, cookery, and other branches of domestic economy, which she held should be learned in technical evening schools after the

ordinary school days are over. Mrs. Craven brought the discussion back to the point from which it had wandered, and reminded the meeting that the great object of the Congress is to recommend the omission of some items in the present code, and to substitute Domestic Economy. "Pure Air and Cleanliness, the True Basis of all Health and Comfort, within the Reach of All, by E. A. Hadley, Esq.," was the title of the next paper; and a kindred contribution was that of Captain Douglas Galton on "The Maintainance of Pure Air in Dwellings." In illustration of his statement that people often lived to an advanced age in ill-ventilated houses, though they suffered from feeble health, Captain Galton mentioned a curious experiment:—A number of flies corked up in a bottle into which fresh air was admitted were very lively, but they died in four and twenty hours from want of food, whereas flies confined in a bottle without fresh air became dull, but lived ten times as long as the others. The business of the section was finished by half-past one, and the Congress did not meet again until four o'clock, when Mrs. Buckton, at the request of the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, who was present, repeated her lecture on her method of teaching domestic economy.

The subject of Health occupied the attention of the Congress at the morning sitting on June 24th, when Lady Strangford presided, with Lord A. S. Churchill as assessor; and her ladyship, differing in that respect from her predecessors in the chair, opened the proceedings by delivering an address in which she said she believed the teaching of domestic economy in elementary schools to be of the first importance to the moral and physical well-being of the people. The first paper was on general rules of health, by Miss Pechey, M.D., and the next by Mrs. Sutherland Orr, urging the desirableness of introducing a practical knowledge of the laws of health into the lower standards of School Board education. In the discussion which was now invited, the Dowager Lady Stanley of Alderley gave details of her experience in teaching domestic economy to girls both in town and country, and said it was a mistake to suppose that the children of the working classes are less in-



tellectually bright than others, her own experience being that they are very nice pupils to have to do with, and very apt in learning the rudiments of physiology. A similar opinion was expressed by Miss Pechey, who, speaking from an intimate knowledge of the slums of big cities, said the little girls of the poor are extremely sharp while they run the streets, but otherwise after marriage, when they stay more at home. Then followed papers, by Miss Louisa Twining, on the Prevention of Disease, on the Teaching of the Laws of Health in Schools, by Miss Mary Martineau, and on Health in the Schoolroom, by Dr. Pope. Among the speakers taking part in this discussion were Mrs. Johnston, of St. Leonard's, Mrs. Corbett, Mr. E. Chadwick, Sir H. Cole, and Miss Concordia Löfving, a Swedish lady. At the close of the sitting, which was the most animated and interesting of the whole series, Lady Strangford summed up the business of the section in the following words:

"I think we may say, as the result of what we have heard this morning, that we may hope for a clear expression of the feeling of the Congress, to the effect that some change is very desirable in the code of School Board law; that we wish that some of the useful studies we have spoken of should be received as worthy to be placed in the list of compulsory subjects; and that if, as many think, the children have already enough to learn, we should advise the leaving out of some of the existing studies which we consider to be less practical."

This was passed unanimously, and the following memorandum was read by Sir Henry Cole as embodying the wishes of the Executive, and was at once accepted by the meeting:

To obtain from the work of the Domestic Economy Congress of 1881 practical fruits in promoting improved teaching of home duties by women especially to children of the wage-earning classes, it is desirable that further inquiries should be widely instituted into what is now doing, and that a scheme should be prepared and submitted to the Congress for bringing into harmonious action, with entire local freedom, the several agencies now engaged in teaching any branch of domestic economy.

Thrift, in its various aspects, was discussed at the afternoon sitting. The Dowager Lady Stanley of

Alderley, who presided, gave an exceptionally interesting account of the Girls' Home Certified Industrial School in Charlotte Street. It was started by the Vere Street congregation of the late Rev. F. Maurice, and that eminent man himself took a deep personal interest in the school which is not a reformatory or penitentiary, but a place where girls of the very lowest class are taught how to earn a respectable livelihood. No girl leaves the school who cannot make and iron a shirt, cook a dinner, lay a tablecloth, clean a room, and who is not, in short, thoroughly conversant with domestic duties. There are class rooms and a library, and the school is a home for the girls when out of place. Following this paper was one on "The Girls Friendly Society," by Mrs. M. E. Townsend, and another on "The Metropolitan Association for Befriending Young Servants," by Lady Stuart Hogg—both papers describing what are the objects and work of the societies dealt with. After a brief discussion another group of papers was proceeded with:—"On the National Teaching of Thrift and Providence," by the Rev. Dr. Blackley, rector of North Waltham, inculcating a thorough system of cottage expenditure and savings; "On the Formation of Habits of Temperance among Girls," by Dr. Mann; and "On Food Waste in Workhouses and District Schools consequent on the Dietary Scale System," by Mrs. Charles (Poor Law Guardian in Paddington). Mrs. Hoggan, M.D., spoke very strongly upon the waste in workhouses and the enormous consumption of alcoholic liquors there. The last paper of the sitting and of the Congress was "On the Boarding-out of Pauper Children," by Miss Preusser. The Rev. J. P. Faunthorpe summed up the afternoon's papers and speeches, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to the lady president. In the evening, a special meeting was held, under the chairmanship of the Rev. Newton Price, to enable teachers to express their views upon the teaching of domestic economy, and the prizes to teachers were announced.

Saturday was occupied by the usual routine reports. Amid the great mass of subjects dealt with at this Congress, we must notice with great satisfaction the

increase of practical knowledge among the women of the rich and leisure classes. It would have been difficult in the last generation to find so many, we will not say good housekeepers, for housekeeping has always been held in good esteem among our countrywomen, but so many ladies who were willing to give time and thought and trouble to the making their methods better known and more popularly useful. It would be out of place here to cavil at the Congress, because along with the sense a great deal of nonsense was talked. Congresses, medical, social, international, educational, are the order of the day, and they afford perhaps as good a way as any, of enabling people to ventilate their own ideas, and learn what others are doing. "Talking," says the Autocrat at the Breakfast-table, "shapes our thoughts for us—the waves of conversation roll them as the surf rolls the pebbles on the beach." And so many a scheme, and a suggestion that might have been stifled in silence, have by means of these Congresses been brought to life and forced into growth.

On one point the Congress was unanimous—that these subjects of domestic economy, cooking, needlework, laws of health, or washing, cannot be taught to the children in the Board Schools, unless some of the subjects at present enforced, are omitted. A child belonging to the working classes cannot remain at school, even at a technical school, longer than he does at present; the standards are already sufficiently difficult to pass, and if other subjects are added, however useful these subjects may be, something must be sacrificed. Possibly some things, such as grammar or analysis, might be dropped without much regret, but if there is to be any further reduction of school knowledge, it will require very careful consideration.

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## REVIEW.

*History of Women's Suffrage, Vol. 1*, by ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, and MATILDA JOSLYN GAGE. Fowler and Wells, New York.

ON opening the volume before us, we confess to having felt some doubt whether it was the best policy to write a history of the Women's Suffrage movement while the struggle was still undecided. A general would not publish his memoirs while in the middle of a campaign, and though astonishing progress has been made all along the line of women's questions in America as well as England, there is no single State in which the battle can be said to be won. Even School Suffrage is only gained in eight or nine States, and sometimes this is of a very limited kind. Municipal Suffrage is even in a still more backward condition, while in only two territories is complete Suffrage extended to women. Some amelioration in this respect may be expected before long in Nebraska and Ohio, yet even though events now move with unexampled rapidity, it is evident that some years must elapse before victory is obtained; and to write a history while the events it chronicles are being enacted seems to us rather premature.

This objection being entered, we have only unequivocal praise for the present volume. It begins with the early struggles which dated in America from the time when women delegates were shut out from the world's Anti-Slavery Convention in London. But the leaders in that movement had prepared themselves by a long course of arduous and self-sacrificing work.

Frances Wright was probably the first speaker on these questions. She was an Englishwoman, and began lecturing in 1828. She lectured on American Political Institutions, and also on many other subjects, in all of which she spoke of the inferior condition of women. In 1836 Mrs. Ernestine Rose began to lecture on the equal rights of women. In the same year she sent to the Legislature of New York a petition with five names, which had cost her many weary miles of walking, asking for the property rights of women. In 1837

Mary S. Gore commenced lecturing on "Women's Rights," especially the right to a thorough medical professional course. In the same year Angelina and Sarah Grimke came from the South, and two years afterwards a National Women's Anti-Slavery Convention met in Philadelphia.

Lucretia Mott and her husband had been known as thorough-paced abolitionists, devoting themselves to obtain human freedom for many years previously. Paulina Wright Davis, also an abolitionist, had commenced a course of lectures on physiology to women in 1844, and her pupils were afterwards among the first to enter the colleges and hospitals. These lectures of a woman to women were then thought very immodest. One lady who attended the course said that a friend, seeing her frequently pass, hailed her on one occasion, and said, "Anna, where does thee go every day?" "I go to hear Mrs. Wright lecture." "What, Anna, does thee go to hear that Fanny Wright?" "Oh, no; Paulina Wright." "Ah! I warn thee, do not go near her; she is of the same species."

Petitions were circulated for married women's property laws in Massachusetts as early as 1848 by Mrs. Ferrin of Salem. It was natural that women should early begin to think about the suffrage in Massachusetts, for we are told that there "women voted at an early day, first under the old Province Charter, from 1691 to 1780, for all elective officers, and secondly, they voted under the constitution for all elective officers except the Governor, Council, and Legislature from 1780 to 1785. How they lost their right, whether by enactment or merely through disuse, we are not able to say.

Met at first by opposition as determined, and by ridicule even coarser than in England, the movement grew fast. New workers met at every succeeding Convention, new names of men and women were added. It was in 1853, when Miss Anthony, who has since been in the front of the battle, first spoke in public, from the educational point of view. Lucy Stone, Abby Kelly Foster, Mary Grew, Dr. Harriot Hunt, Dr. Lydia Fowler, the sisters Alice, Phoebe Carey, and Mrs. Nichols, and many other noble women have given their lives for the

cause, not dying for it, but living for it. The magnitude of the undertaking seems at times to retard the question, as to us in England, it always complicates it. There are so many States, so many Legislatures and Senates to be petitioned, such vast areas to be canvassed and lectured over, so many constitutions to be altered before justice can be done, that we grow bewildered as we read on.

The result of the movement hitherto as a whole is, that the condition of married women as regards their property and personal rights, is far superior in some of the States to what it is in England, and only here and there is it inferior; that as regards professions and employments, women stand very much higher than they do here; that in their right to the custody of their children they are still, with only one or two exceptions, on a par with us, but that hitherto in the matter of voting, we are more forward than they. Whether a few more earnest years of effort will reverse this position, who can say? But most cordially do we welcome this record of the deeds and words of the brave pioneers, in "this most momentous reform," and gather courage from their persistent exertions to carry on our own share in the work.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

DEAR MADAM,—I have the pleasure of sending you, for the information of your readers, a copy of the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Bill, as it has finally passed both Houses, and now awaits the Royal Assent, upon receiving which it will come at once into operation.

By the time this number of the *Review* is issued, it will, therefore, be the law under which all future

marriages contracted with husbands domiciled in Scotland will take place.

Scotchwomen owe this considerable instalment of justice to the persistent energy of Mr. Anderson, M.P. for Glasgow, who has had, in Parliament, the cordial support of the Lord Advocate, who presided over the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill, and of the Lord Chancellor, who took charge of the Bill in the House of Lords. Outside Parliament, Mr. Anderson has had the hearty co-operation of the Married Women's Property Committee. As this measure places Scotch wives in a far better position with regard to their property than English wives, it affords a just reason for urging forward the Married Women's Property Bill, which applies to England and Ireland, and which, it is hoped and believed, may yet become law this Session.

Of the 115 Bills introduced this Session by private Members, three have at the date of writing received the Royal Assent, five have passed both Houses of Parliament, five have passed the House of Commons, and are under consideration by the Lords, two await third reading by the Commons, three remain to be considered as amended, and four, of which the Married Women's Property Bill is one, have passed the scrutiny of a Select Committee, and are at the stage of re-committal. The fact then is, that of private Members' Bills which have not yet passed the House of Commons, five only are further advanced than the Married Women's Property Bill, and in the general withdrawal of Bills not so far advanced which will shortly come, the chances of those which have successfully passed their earlier stages, must improve.

I wish, therefore, through you, to ask all your readers to assist us, especially by *at once* petitioning Parliament in support of this amendment of the law, so that this much needed and long delayed measure may pass its final stages, and become law during the present Session.

I am, dear Madam,

Faithfully yours,

E. C. W. ELMY,

Secretary of the Married Women's  
Property Committee.

Congleton, July 5th, 1881.

## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### CAMBRIDGE.

A LETTER of the Chancellor of the University of Cambridge to the Vice-Chancellor finally disposes of the legal difficulty raised by certain members of the Senate as to the admission of women to University examinations. Acting on the opinion of Lord Cairns, the Duke of Devonshire lays down that the words of the Statute relied on by the opponents of the late Grace "are not such as to preclude the University from using the previous and tripos examinations . . . for the purpose of testing the proficiency of women in the manner sanctioned by the Graces 1, 2, 3, of February, 24, 1881."

"Devonshire House, Piccadilly, W., June 14.

"Dear Mr. Vice-Chancellor,—I forward herewith my interpretation of the two statutes, the meaning of which, in accordance with the provisions of the 42nd section of the Act 19 and 20 Victoria, cap. 88, I have been called upon by the Council to declare.

"It appeared to me to be due to the University that my interpretation should not depend on my own individual judgment, and I have accordingly availed myself of the kind consent of Lord Cairns, Chancellor of the University of Dublin, to give me his assistance. My decision is in conformity with his advice, and the following extract from a paper, which he has been so good as to draw up upon the subject will be sufficient to show the principles on which his opinion has been formed:—

"'The main object of the incorporation and existence of the University is the advancement of learning. The regulations as to matriculation, admission to membership, residence, and other matters *ejusdem generis* are means leading to that which is the end and object of the University. They may be relaxed or varied from time to time, and anything which is done by the University (in good faith and without the diversion of funds specifically appropriated to a particular purpose) having for its object the advancement of learning and the testing of such advancement by means of examination is, in my opinion, within the powers of the University.'

"He goes on to say that, in order to prevent misunderstanding, he wishes to add that nothing he has said is intended to cover the question of granting degrees to women.

"I remain, dear Mr. Vice-Chancellor, yours faithfully,

"DEVONSHIRE."

"To the Rev. the Vice-Chancellor and members of the Council of the Senate.

"Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London, June 14.

"Gentlemen,—Having given due consideration to the application made to me on the 2nd of May by the Council of the Senate for a



declaration in writing of the true intent and meaning of two of the statutes of the University in respect of certain matters, and to the statement prepared by the Council which accompanied the application, I declare the true intent and meaning of the statutes to be as follows:—

"The intent and meaning of the words 'examina subeant per ordinationes Academiæ in hanc rem instituta' in cap. 11, De Gradibus, sec. 1, De Studiosis Artium are not such as to preclude the University from using the Previous and Tripos examinations for purposes other than that of testing the proficiency of candidates for degrees in Arts, and in particular for the purpose of testing the proficiency of women in the manner sanctioned by the Graces 1, 2, 3, of February 24, 1881.

"The intent and meaning of the words "liceat autem Academiæ novas ordinationes, ad eruditionis amplificationem et decori atque honesti conservationem inter scolasticos spectantes, sancire, modo ne quid his statutis detrahant aut officiant' in cap. 9, are not such as to preclude the University from making 'ordinationes ad eruditionis amplificationem spectantes' for the increase of learning among others than members of the University.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

"DEVONSHIRE."

#### FEMALE STUDENTS IN CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: TRIPOSES AND EXAMINATIONS.

*June 25th.*

The first official list of the result of University examinations at Cambridge, so far as lady students are concerned, has been officially issued this morning. In the Natural Science Tripos Examinations (new regulations), part 1, Miss M. M. Anelay, Girton College, is the only lady who has passed, and she has obtained a second-class certificate. The following is the class list as regards the previous examination, or "little go" as it is called:—Part 1. Class 1: Boggs, Girton; Case, Girton; Macleod, Girton; Taylor, Girton; Writer, Girton. Class 2: Fletcher, Girton; Gallenga, Girton; Perry, Newnham; Tucker, Newnham.—Part 2. Class 1: Case, Girton; Perry, Newnham; Writer, Girton. Class 2: Davies, Girton.—Additional subjects. Class 1: Case, Girton; Perry, Newnham; Writer, Girton. Class 2: Ellis, Girton; Fraser, Girton; Gadsden, Girton; De Nottbeck, Girton; Steadman, Girton.

#### THE HIGHER LOCAL EXAMINATIONS, CAMBRIDGE.

The examinations of men and women above 18 years of age, conducted by the University of Cambridge, ter-

minated June 25th, at the centres given below. Originally established for the examination of women, they are practically confined to them, as out of 882 candidates offered this year only 16 are men. Of the 882 who have presented themselves for examination, 222 offered in religious knowledge; 566 in English history and English language and literature; 27 in early English, 375 essays on English literature, 67 Latin, 16 Greek, 208 French, 109 German, 3 Italian, 608 arithmetic, 70 Euclid, 71 Algebra, 35 trigonometry, 17 conic sections, 30 statics, 18 astronomy, 23 dynamics, 5 differential and integral calculus, 98 political economy, 27 logic, 159 history, 49 botany, 52 geology, 16 zoology, 13 chemistry, 8 physics, 36 physiology, and 38 music. The following are the numbers who have offered at each centre, all being women where not stated to the contrary.

Birmingham: Presiding Examiner, Rev. T. J. Lawrence, M.A., late Fellow of Downing: 33; decrease, four.

Bristol: Presiding Examiner, Rev. A. Caldecot, B.A., Fellow of St. John's: 50 women, 2 men; total, 52; increase, 12.

Cambridge: Presiding Examiners, Rev. G. F. Browne, B.D., late Fellow of St. Catharine's, and J. N. Keynes, M.A., Fellow of Pembroke College: 102 women, 2 men; total, 104; decrease, 4.

Cheltenham: Presiding Examiner, Rev. J. F. Fenn, M.A., late Fellow of Trinity College: 49; decrease, 15.

Hampstead: Presiding Examiner, W. W. R. Ball, M.A., Fellow of Trinity College: 62; decrease, 7.

Leeds: Presiding Examiner, Mr. W. C. Marshall, M.A., Trinity College: 52 women, 1 man; total, 53; decrease, 5.

Liverpool: Presiding Examiner, W. Garnett, M.A., late Fellow of St. John's College: 60 women, 2 men; increase, 17.

London: Presiding Examiners, Rev. E. H. Morgan, M.A., Fellow Jesus College; R. D. Roberts, M.A., Clare College; S. H. Vines, M.A., Fellow Christ's College; R. St. J. Corbet, St. John's College, Oxford: 220 women, 7 men; total, 227; decrease, 7.

Manchester: Presiding Examiner, R. G. Moulton, M.A., Christ's College: 70; increase, 22.

Newcastle-on-Tyne: Presiding Examiner, Rev. B. Christopherson, M.A.: 9 women, 1 man; total, 10; new centre.

Newcastle, Staffordshire: Presiding Examiner, F. E. Kitchener, M.A., late Fellow Trinity College: 5; decrease, 4.

Norwich: Rev. C. K. Robinson, D.D., master St. Catharine's: 15; increase, 6.

Nottingham: J. J. H. Teall, M.A., late Fellow of St. John's: 25 girls, 1 boy; total, 26; increase, 7.

Plymouth: Presiding Examiner, H. N. Read, M.A., St. John's: 43; decrease, 8.

Rugby: Presiding Examiner, H. T. Gillson, M.A., St. John's: 11; decrease, 1.

Sydenham: Presiding Examiner, H. E. Malden, M.A., Trinity Hall: 34; increase, 1.

Teignmouth: Presiding Examiner, Rev. J. Metcalfe, M.A., Christ's: 11; new centre.

Winchester: Presiding Examiner, Rev. T. F. Kirby, M.A., late Fellow of Trinity College: 15; increase, 5.

The total number examined this year is 882, as compared with 811 last year, and 573 in 1878. The papers will now be handed over to the examiners in subjects, and the list published in August.

#### MANCHESTER AND SALFORD COLLEGE, AND OWENS COLLEGE.

The Annual Meeting of the Manchester and Salford College for Women was held on June 23rd. The report showed the good which this college had effected, 96 students having attended during the last session. It is rapidly, however, nearing the end of its resources. It was started with guaranteed subscriptions for six years, and four of these have now expired. To provide, as the College does, a progressive series of classes extending over several years is very expensive, and it will often happen that a class cannot be held because the number of students requiring it is insufficient, or else it is held at a heavy loss. This difficulty would be got over by the admission of properly qualified students

from the Women's College to selected classes at the Owens College. Another plan suggested in the memorial to the Council is that the Owens College should take over the entire responsibility for the Women's College, and carry on its students in combined or separate classes as might seem most convenient. The Committee, therefore, some months ago, presented the following memorial to the Council of Owens College :—

1. That your memorialists are the Managing Committee of the institution called the Manchester and Salford College for Women, which institution has during the last three years been engaged in the endeavour to further the systematic higher education of women in Manchester and the surrounding district. 2. That the College is supported partly by voluntary subscriptions, partly by the fees of its students, and that since its opening up to the end of last June, the subscriptions and donations, paid and promised, have amounted to £4,400, and the fees received to £724 8s 6d. The total of expenditure for the same period has amounted to £3,552 14s. 3. That the College opened in the year, 1877 with 38 students; that it now numbers 72 students attending 18 classes in the following subjects: Greek, Latin, French, German, English language, English literature, history, algebra, geometry, political economy, and physiology; that these classes are arranged in courses extending over three years of consecutive academic study, with an examination held in each class at the end of each year; that certificates are granted to students who have attended for two years certain prescribed classes in a group of subjects, and have successfully passed an examination held at the end of the second year of such attendance, and that of the students at the College a considerable number have attended for two or three years in succession the classes of the College, frequently in the same branch of learning or science. 4. That with your sanction as Council of the Owens College, several professors and lecturers of the Owens College have given their services as lecturers to the Women's College, whose teaching staff (with the exception of one lecturer) now consists altogether of members of the Owens College teaching staff; that with your sanction the examinations (including the certificate examinations) of the Women's College, have been and are conducted by the Owens College Senate, and the examination papers of the Women's College have been printed as an appendix to the Owens College Calendar. 5. That in the opinion of the examiners and of the teachers of the Women's College, and of your memorialists much solid and thorough work has been done by its students, and a real educational benefit has been conferred upon the community by its labours. 6. That while your memorialists desire to point out the encouraging character of these results, which may be said to have established the facts of a real and growing demand for the systematic higher education of women in this district, and of the advantage of such education being conducted by a mainly academic teaching body they have at the same time to state that the resources and prospects

of the Women's College do not warrant the hope of its long remaining able, under the present conditions of its existence, to achieve the same results. 7. That your memorialists further regard it as difficult if not impossible, satisfactorily and permanently to keep up any system of higher education without a fixed standard of examinations possessing a well recognised value in the eyes of the public, and that no certificates of the passing of such a standard are so generally valued as University degrees. 8. That, moreover, inasmuch as the possession of such certificates is esteemed a high advantage by the growing number of young women engaged in teaching of a more advanced kind, it is, in the opinion of your memorialists, highly desirable that the obtaining of such certificates should be brought within reach of properly qualified members of that class in this district. Your memorialists may add that the increasing competition in this district for the higher certificates in the local examinations of the University of Cambridge illustrates the continued growth of the class referred to. 9. That, as your memorialists also beg to point out, the University of London has recently opened its degrees to female candidates, many of whom enjoy opportunities of academic instruction in University College, London, and other colleges, while the University of Cambridge has for some time allowed the knowledge of female students to be tested by informal examinations identical with those held for its degrees. 10. That your memorialists venture to commend to your favourable consideration the above facts, taken together with the following provision of the royal charter recently granted to the Victoria University:—"The University shall have power to grant and confer degrees and other distinctions (except medical degrees) on all persons, male or female, who shall have pursued a regular course of study in a College in the University, and shall submit themselves for examination." 11. That in the humble opinion of your memorialists a signal benefit would be conferred upon this district in which the Owens College has for some years been the recognised centre of higher education, and in which it now holds the peculiar position of the only incorporated college of the Victoria University, if the Council of the Owens College were to signify its readiness to consider means for enabling students of the Women's College to qualify as candidates for a Victoria University degree. 12. That in the humble opinion of your memorialists this end might be gained either by the Owens College admitting the Women's College as an integral department of the Owens College, and providing for the students in such department courses of study, attendance upon which would qualify them for the Victoria degree; or by the Owens College admitting properly qualified students of the Women's College to such courses of study in the Owens College as may be approved of by the Council of the Owens College, and as would enable such students as students of the Owens College in like manner to become candidates for the degrees of the University. 13. That in the event of the adoption of the latter course the preparatory or earlier part of the instruction necessary for students of the Women's College before their admission as students of the Owens College could, in the opinion of your memorialists, continue to be satisfactorily furnished by the Women's

College if the Owens College Council continues to sanction the co-operation in the work of the Women's College of the Owens College Senate and of members of the Owens College teaching body, and that this would be further facilitated by the Owens College assuming such further control or superintendence over the work of the Women's College as might seem to it possible or desirable, while former students of the Women's College attending classes of the Owens College might, in the opinion of your memorialists, continue to enjoy such facilities as should be offered by the Women's College in respect of library, apparatus and common-room. Your memorialists, therefore, pray that you will be pleased to consider and recommend to the Court of Governors of the Owens College for its adoption a scheme under which the Owens College may take such charge and control of the Women's College as may seem to you desirable, and under which properly qualified students of the Manchester and Salford College for Women may be admitted to such courses of the Owens College as may be approved of by the Council of the Owens College, and as would enable such students as students of the Owens College, to become candidates for the degrees of the Victoria University.

It was reported at the meeting that the memorial has been referred to a committee of the Council for consideration, and there is good hope that some plan may be devised which will meet their needs and be approved by the Court of Governors at Owens College. This is clearly the course of justice. The establishment of the Victoria University has supplied the memorialists with a strong additional claim to the consideration of the Owens College authorities. The degrees of the University are open on precisely equal terms to men and women, but membership of a college is a necessary condition for obtaining them. At present the Owens College is the only College of the University, and unless arrangements can be made by which women can become technically students in the Owens College they must remain excluded from the possibility of obtaining the Victoria degree.

#### THE JUBILEE OF KING'S COLLEGE.

On June 24th, the Archbishop of Canterbury presided over a crowded meeting in the great room at Willis's, convened on behalf of the fund for commemorating the jubilee year of King's College, London, by the erection of a suitable building for the new department to be made for the higher education of women.

For some time past lectures have been given at

Kensington in connexion with King's College, and now, as the system seemed to have worked well, and as there was evidently a greater demand than could be met by the old arrangements, it is proposed to connect more distinctly that department also with the College.

After the Archbishop of Canterbury's address, the Marquis of SALISBURY moved, "That this meeting, recognizing the importance of the higher education of women, believes that the principles on which King's College was founded, and on which it has now laboured for 50 years, are those on which such education can be most safely and successfully promoted." He said he had accepted the invitation rather to show his sympathy with the movement, and with those excellent persons at the head of King's College by whom the movement had been introduced, than from any hope that he could add by his advocacy to the acceptability of such a movement with those before him; because it seemed to him that the difficulty in the matter was rather to find why there should be need of advocating the extension of education for women than to find arguments in its favour. The burden of proof lay on the other side. Why was the higher education not to be as much the privilege of women as of men? If education was valuable to those who had to make their way in the world and had their bread to win, it was as valuable for women in that position as for men. The most rev. prelate, who had quitted the chair, pointed to the consideration which must have the deepest weight with those who were interested in the promotion of religious education in this country. In every generation the religious convictions of women were the mainstay of the continuance of the Christian religion, because they had the power to mould the earliest impressions of the men and the women of the next generation alike. The education of women had, from the point of view of the moralist, another interest. The highest object of instruction, was not merely to stuff the mind with facts—it was to produce a taste for intellectual pursuits, and by the refining influence of reading and of thought to oust those baser competitors for the human affections which were always ready, if the room was left vacant, to take their place.

The Earl of CARNARVON having seconded the resolution, the Rev. Canon Barry then stated that the undertaking was simply to apply to the higher education of women the principles on which King's College had worked for fifty years in the higher education of men. They desired to apply, *mutatis mutandis*, the motto of King's College, *Sancte et sapienter*. It was proposed to erect a new building to carry out the new work, and for that purpose £20,000 would be required. The college staff and members of the council, including Mr. Gladstone, Lord Salisbury, Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., and Lord Coleridge, had subscribed to the scheme, and more than £3,000 had been raised without going to the public. It was now to be hoped that the public would come forward and give to it their earnest support.

The first resolution having been carried,

Sir JOHN MOWBRAY moved, "That this meeting accordingly recommends the enterprise undertaken by the council to the cordial sympathy and support of the public, and especially of the friends and old members of King's College."

This was also carried.

On July 2nd, the Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess, distributed the prizes to the scholars, and Canon Barry again explained the reasons for the change. The Prince of Wales replied that this college being one which justly has the reputation of having done so much for the higher education of men, it afforded him, and the Princess also, great gratification to learn that its benefits are to be extended to women, and that already this year, when the Principal and the council received memorials signed by various distinguished persons, they wisely acceded to its prayer, and enabled women to attend lectures by distinguished professors of this college.

#### LONDON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

On June 29th, the prizes won in the faculties of Arts, Laws, and Science, by the students of this college, were distributed by the Earl of Kimberley, president of the college. There was a long list of prizes. Among the successful students was Miss Alice S. Riding, who ob-



tained the Fielden scholarship for French. It was noteworthy how many times the names of the same prize and certificate winners were repeated in the list. Amongst those who succeeded in nearly every competition for which they had entered were Miss Mary L. G. Petrie, Miss Riding, Mr. A. L. Morris, Mr. A. Berry, and Mr. S. Mayer.

#### CONFERENCE OF HEAD MISTRESSES OF ENDOWED AND PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS.

The Annual Conference of Head Mistresses of Endowed and Proprietary Schools was held on June 10th, at the North London Collegiate School for Girls. Forty-one head mistresses were present, representing upwards of 7,300 pupils.

The important part of the work of the conference was the discussion of a scheme for a proposed Teachers' Provident Association. The objects of the proposed Association met with general approval; and it seems probable that when the details of the scheme are fully worked out, it will meet with a considerable amount of support. An interesting paper on "The Study of Psychology by Teachers" was read by Miss Cooper, of Edgbaston High School. The next annual conference will be held in Manchester.

PRINCESS HELENA COLLEGE, 11, St. Andrew's Place, Regent's Park.—A series of lectures on Chemistry are being given by Miss Halcrow. Ladies not belonging to the College can be admitted on payment of a fee of 10s. 6d.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.—Miss Löfving, the Superintendent of Physical Education in Girls' Schools under the London School Board, gave a lecture in St. George's Hall, Langham Place, on June 25th, on "Physical Education, and its place in a rational system of education." The lecture dealt with the relation between physical and intellectual development, and showed by what practical means the former may be attained.

#### WOMEN AND THE DURHAM UNIVERSITY.

Mrs. Steadman Aldis thus writes to the *Daily News*:—  
Sir,—With reference to Dr. Sanday's letter on this subject will you kindly allow me to say that an offer was made to open and su

perintend a small hostel entirely without expense to the University, provided the scholarships were granted? As this condition has not been fulfilled it is not thought likely that such an undertaking would meet with any success. Women who could afford a University course without such aid would certainly find greater attractions at Cambridge. Dr. Sanday's statement that "as to the scholarships we need all we have," means, I presume, that they are needed for the use of students. That is precisely the use to which we wish to see them applied. Women would be required to pay fees, and their fees would be as valuable to the University as those of men; there seems no reasonable ground therefore for refusing them the advantages which are open to men.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

MARY STEADMAN ALDIS.

#### WOMEN'S EMIGRATION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this organisation, the object of which is to facilitate the emigration of Englishwomen of all classes, was, by kind permission of the Duke of Westminster, held on June 24th, at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. There was a very numerous attendance, and the Duchess of Teck was present during the greater part of the proceedings. There were also present the Marchioness of Lothian, Duchess of Wellington, Marchioness of Salisbury, Lady Wharncliffe, Lady Fox Young, Lady Brownlow, Lady Jane Taylor, Lady, and Dowager Lady Monteagle, and many others. Lord Shaftesbury, in opening the meeting, illustrated the importance of this movement by quoting the excess of females over males in the population of the United Kingdom, and by showing the great demand for the services of young women which existed in our Canadian possessions. The adoption of the report and the accounts was moved by Sir Alexander Galt, who testified to the great value of such a movement in promoting emigration to the colonies. This was seconded by Mr. John Robinson, a member of the Cape Legislature, who spoke with great heartiness of the urgent want of a large infusion of British women of high character, regretting that colonists themselves did not do more to forward the introduction of an element so much needed. Sir George Bowen, after praising the judicious and admirable arrangements of the society, and also touching upon the immense improvements in emigrant ships,

referred to an admirable speech of Lord Carnarvon, in which he said there was nothing more remarkable than the way in which old controversies were revived, and that none was more important than that about the education of women. In the opinion of Sir George this question, already debated during 2,000 years, stood a good chance of being solved now in the Colonies. Emigration led no women away from domestic duties.

The Bishop of Gibraltar moved a resolution to pass the rules of the Society; he spoke again of the disparity of the sexes in England, and urged young women of character to go where they might gain homes of their own and liberty of action, rather than to remain where their natures are so liable to be dwarfed and stunted. He said it was impossible to exaggerate the power for good of good women, and to see to what a depth a land might sink we had but to look at Turkey, where men had for centuries degraded women to their own hopeless ruin. Viscountess STRANGFORD, who spoke amidst much applause, said the question each woman in happy circumstances should put to herself was "Am I my sister's keeper?" They should remember that women tenderly nurtured cannot drift out to the Colonies by themselves, but they should be assisted with all possible loving care. Mr. ARTHUR MILLS, just returned from New Zealand, dwelt on the very considerable openings for women, and said emigration was certainly no longer what people used to fancy it—a permanent picnic relieved by a little house architecture.

Miss ANNA SWANWICK, with great eloquence, illustrated Goëthe's words: "A useless life is but an early death," and pointed out that the very improvement in women's education had diminished the demand for governesses, and urged families of respectability to bring up some at least of their daughters from an early age so as to qualify them for emigration.

Mr. TOM HUGHES declared that there never had been such an excess of educated boys and girls, and that every opening for both was overwhelmingly overcrowded in England, and that in his own little colony in America there were only four girls, and any amount of demand for laundry work.

The report gave a summary of the work done by the Society since its foundation in January, 1880.

Applications from emigrants:—

Total number of persons supplied with information	..	517
Number of persons sent out	... ..	59
Number of cases in hand...	... ..	37
CLASSES OF WOMEN SENT OUT.		
Professional and Shop-keeping classes	... ..	43
Servants	... ..	16
		59
Number who went free	... ..	23
Number whose passages were paid by employers, friends, or themselves	... ..	12
Number assisted by loans	... ..	24
		59

DESTINATION OF EMIGRANTS.

Iowa, Le Mars	... ..	1
South Africa, Port Elizabeth	... ..	1
Canada	... ..	1
New Zealand	... ..	7
Tasmania	... ..	1
New South Wales	... ..	1
South Australia	... ..	3
Queensland	... ..	44
		59

Nearly three-fourths of the emigrants have gone to Queensland because that colony offers the best field for educated women, and is the only one to which free passages are still granted.

The number heard of since landing is fourteen. More than half the number sent have started this year, and as they have barely reached their destination, it has been impossible to hear from them. Of the fourteen who have communicated with us, all have found work, while some have obtained remarkably good situations.

Branches are being established in the colonies. We have correspondents in Le Mars, Iowa, in Canada, South Africa, and Queensland, and can recommend servants to the care of the Servants' Home in Adelaide.

MISS RYE'S EMIGRATION HOME, PECKHAM.—Miss Rye, who left Liverpool recently in the *Sarmatian* with 64 girls bound for Canada, for whom good homes have been provided, expects to sail again in the first week of September. There are a few vacancies in the Home at Peckham for girls between the ages of eight and fourteen who are really destitute. Application should be made at once to Miss Lizzie Still, Secretary at the Home.

**WOMEN'S PEACE AND ARBITRATION AUXILIARY.**

On June 23rd the seventh anniversary meeting and conversazione of the Women's Peace and Arbitration Auxiliary of the London Peace Society was held in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, under the presidency of Mrs. Lucas. Amongst others on the platform were Miss Helen Taylor, Miss Downing, Mr. Passmore Edwards, M.P., Mr. H. Richard, M.P., Mrs. A. Livermore, Rev. W. Spensely, &c. Mrs. Solby read the report, which gave an encouraging account of the past work and future prospects of the auxiliary and its branches. Mr. Passmore Edwards, M.P., moved "That the report be adopted, printed, and circulated; and that we desire to express our convictions that the moral progress of the nineteenth century of the Christian era demands a more rational settlement of international disputes than the barbaric arbitrament of the sword." Miss Helen Taylor seconded the motion, and said if they thought of these words "the nineteenth century of the Christian era," it reminded them of the long, slow, sad centuries in which men and women had to suffer, because they could scarcely be said to have as yet commenced the first year of the Christian era. After addresses by Mr. H. Richard, M.P., Miss Downing, the Rev. W. Spensely, and others, the resolution was carried, and a vote of thanks to Mrs. Lucas closed the meeting.

**SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE RETURN OF WOMEN  
AS POOR LAW GUARDIANS.**

On the 13th of June, the first Annual Meeting of this Society was held in the Westminster Palace Hotel. Miss Müller, Member of the London School Board, was in the chair; the audience was composed chiefly of ladies. The report which was read by Miss Eva Müller, Hon. Sec., showed that the Society had originated at a meeting held on February 9th, at which a provisional committee had been formed. The Society had already greatly conduced to the return of several ladies as guardians in the various metropolitan parishes, and with a broader organisation, its usefulness was very likely to increase. The names of the General Committee were read, including among others the Right

Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P., Mr. Caine, M.P., Mr. Horace Davey, Q.C., M.P., and Mrs. Davey, Sir Wm. Tyrone Power, K.C.B., and Lady Power, Miss Rye, Mrs. Arthur Arnold, Lady Harberton, Mrs. P. A. Taylor, Mr. Thomas Hughes, Q.C., Mr. Michael, Q.C., and many others.

The first resolution "That in the opinion of this meeting the report given by the Provisional Committee for the return of women as Poor Law Guardians shows the benefit which may arise from the existence of a Society for this purpose, and that the following rules be adopted for the establishment of the Society on a permanent basis," was moved by Miss Ward Andrews (guardian in St. Pancras), and seconded by Miss Downing (guardian in Islington). Miss Andrews spoke of the great need which existed for the superintendence of competent women in every department of this work; the children were brought up in the large schools, like machines, and knew nothing at all of life, or how to do the simplest shopping, or cut out and arrange their own clothes when they left school. Miss Downing said there was not only work which men and women could do in concert, but special work suitable for women only. She thought every Board should consist of at least one third of women. The finance and the building departments might fitly be managed by men, but women should be on the House and School Committees. As yet in Islington, they had not placed her on either of these Committees. In the schools there was clear proof that the interests of girls were not well looked after; the boys received competent instruction from masters of all kinds, sailors, schoolmasters, tailors, &c., while the girls were all expected to be domestic servants, and were not taught even this thoroughly.

Mr. Michael, Q.C., in moving the second resolution which elected the Executive Committee, thought there was a danger that women would bring too much sympathy for the paupers, and too little consideration for the pockets of the ratepayers to the work. He hoped every lady who was elected would go to her duties in a strictly business manner, looking after the general work of the Board, and not taking any special functions as peculiarly her own. Miss Simcox, M.L.S.B.

thought that men and women would co-operate, and work in natural alliance, each doing what they were individually fitted for. Miss Tod in supporting the resolution, reminded the meeting that neither women nor clergymen could be elected as guardians of the poor in Ireland, and that this exclusion sometimes gave rise to very uncomfortable circumstances. She hoped that the qualification would eventually not be such as to preclude married women from election, as they possessed a large amount of the kind of experience most wanted on the Boards, and though it was true that widows also had this experience, they were frequently even more occupied with home concerns than married women, having to act both the father's and mother's part to their children. Mrs. Hoggan, M.D., also supported the resolution. She said that she thought women guardians would help to save the rates of the parish instead of increasing them: women exercised the strictest economy in housekeeping, and there was at present much scandalous expenditure in workhouses for stimulants, and waste of food which women would check. She was glad that in England we had directed our efforts to placing women conjointly with men on the Boards, for they would work well together. In Berlin, at the conference of German ladies last October, where she had been present, Professor Lammas had advised women to report about the poor to boards of men, but on no account to try to be on the boards, and though German women ordinarily took their exclusion very quietly, there had been quite a little rebellion during the conference at this advice. Practically it would be useless; a lady had once been appointed on such a corresponding committee, but had never been summoned.

The resolution was unanimously carried, and a vote of thanks to Miss Müller for presiding was moved by Mrs. Charles (guardian in Paddington), seconded by Miss C. A. Biggs, and carried.

#### NURSING.

**SOLDIERS' WIVES AS NURSES.**—An important movement, sanctioned by the War Department, was in-

augurated on May 25th at Woolwich—viz., the instruction of soldiers' wives in nursing duties. Gen. the Hon. E. Gage presided, and Lord and Lady Chelmsford, Sir Frederick and Lady Roberts, Count Gleichen, and other visitors were present. Lord Chelmsford said the movement would be a great aid to the Army Medical Department in time of war. The proper nurse for a soldier was a soldier's wife, who was familiar with the ways, feelings, and wants of a soldier. It was not proposed to send them to the front, but they would take a position some distance in the rear of the field dressing posts. Sir Frederick Roberts also gave a hearty approval to the scheme, and thanked Viscountess Strangford, the directress of the movement for her indefatigable zeal in utilising soldiers' wives as nurses. Medals were then distributed to the soldiers' wives for proficiency in nursing.

HUMILITY AND SELF SACRIFICE.—The *Times* July 2nd, says, "On Thursday afternoon the senior physician of the London Hospital, Dr. Andrew Clark, delivered before an unacademical audience, consisting of subscribers to the institution, mostly ladies, together with an appreciable proportion of the 150 nurses, the inaugural lecture of a popular course on nursing. He defined nursing simply as ministration to the necessities and comforts of the sick. It called for qualities not always—nor often, united—some knowledge of the nature of disease, of the bodily functions, of the wants of the sick, and how they were to be met. It was the medical man who possessed most of the knowledge requisite for successful nursing. There must, therefore, be a division of labour. He must guide, and the nurse must be the skilled hand to carry out his instructions, along with clinical assistants and dispensers. Nursing was thus a secondary and ministerial, although not necessarily an inferior function. To suppose the nurse degraded by her work was against the true view of the dignity of labour. The nurse would minister not only to the alleviation and cure of disease, but even to the advancement of knowledge. Dr. Clark then dwelt on the physical, intellectual, and moral qualifications of nurses, which, however, would not suffice without long,



patient, and assiduous practice, for which the 800 beds of the London Hospital afforded ample scope. The lecturer concluded by inculcating on nurses the necessity of self-sacrifice and humility, if they wished their sacred office to become, like charity, twice blest." We wonder if by any stretch of imagination doctors as well as nurses, men as well as women, would be the better for this large increase of self-sacrifice and humility.

MRS. LIVERMORE.

One of the most eloquent of American speakers has lately paid a flying visit to England, and the occasion was eagerly seized by the friends of the various movements of which she is one of the ablest advocates, to persuade her to address various audiences here. Mrs. Livermore was one of the workers in the latter days of the Anti-Slavery movement; during the war she played an important part in the management and organisation of the Women's Sanitary Association, which spread its branches into every town and rural district throughout the North. Mrs. Livermore has since that time been working zealously in the Temperance and Women's Suffrage movements. As she had been speaking every night for six months, Mrs. Livermore really came to Europe for much-needed rest; but of this there seemed very little chance while she remained in London. On June 17th she gave an eloquent address at St. George's Hall, London, W., on "The Duties of Women in regard to the Life of a Nation," at which Mrs. Lucas presided, and at which there was a large attendance. In the course of her lecture she instanced the wonderful advance that had taken place in the condition of women during the last quarter of a century. Women's education had been advanced; in fact there was a general quickening upon the subject, and honour and credit were due to the men for the way they dealt with the subject. In America, twenty-five years ago, there were about 300 colleges, some of them not very high in their standard of education, open to men only. To-day, out of this 300, upwards of 153 were open to women who could study side by side with their brothers. In England even greater progress

had been made, and their friends in America had been thrilled with satisfaction by the grand vote, by which women were now admitted to obtain the highest honours in the great colleges. With regard to the employments open to women in America, she remembered twenty years ago reckoning the number, and there were only eleven. Now, however, there were eighty-seven employments for women open in her country. In travelling through her country she found women in fifteen of the States practising as lawyers. She found women practising at the Supreme Court of the United States with as much dignity, as much calmness as men, and frequently gaining the applause of those with whom they were associated in their profession. Let them go back a little and see how this had been accomplished. Nine of the judges of the Supreme Court had steadily opposed the idea of women practising at their courts as lawyers, but one brave woman, Mrs. Lockwood, appealed to Congress, and by an overwhelming majority Congress declared that henceforth any woman admitted to practise at the Bar of her State should be admitted to practise in any court of the United States. In America she found offices like that of the State Librarian filled by women. In almost all their large towns women were to be found practising as physicians with success, and meeting with social and professional recognition. Eight-tenths of the teaching in the United States was done by women, who sometimes received as high salaries as men engaged in the work of education. Every man in America, unless a criminal or a lunatic, was allowed to vote, irrespective of colour. While, however, their women had gained immensely in social freedom they were not yet allowed to take part in the affairs of the nation, and she suggested that the women of England and America should unite in their demand for the suffrage.

Mrs. Livermore also spoke on the subject of the repression of vice, at the great meeting of the International Conference in St. James' Hall, on the 21st June, and at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, and at several other meetings.

WOMEN'S PROTECTIVE AND PROVIDENT LEAGUE.—The

seventh annual meeting of the members and supporters of this League was held on June 21st, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Mrs. Fawcett presiding. The league was established in 1874 for the purpose of encouraging and assisting women earning their own livelihood, to combine for the protection of their industrial interests, and for the provision of benefit funds for their assistance in sickness or in times of slack trade. Mrs. Mark Pattison, the hon. secretary, announced that amongst those who had written regretting their inability to attend the meeting were Mrs. Hodgson Pratt, Lady Goldsmid, Mrs. P. Taylor, and Mr. George Palmer, M.P. Mrs. Fawcett, in her opening address, said she was there that evening as a warm friend of unions, but was bound to admit that although unions were good things for all classes of industry, yet they could not provide good wages when trade was going down. It was a notable fact that, although until lately women had had no unions and no protection from unions, yet during the past ten years the rate of women's wages had increased faster than those of men. This was caused no doubt by the general movement of the labour market and by the movement on the part of women, of which that League was one of the outcomes. They had, however, still to face the enormous difference between men's and women's wages. One of the causes of the low rate of payment to the latter was the small number of trades open to them, and it was therefore their duty to increase the number as much and as soon as possible. In order to gain this end they ought to oppose any further restrictive legislation on women's work. Another cause of these low wages was the want of industrial enthusiasm amongst women when any high degree of skill was to be acquired. The Rev. Brooke Lambert then moved the adoption of the report, which was taken as read. So far as the work of the League was concerned, it was of a satisfactory character, but further subscriptions were earnestly asked for by the Committee to enable them to carry on the work. Mr. Broadhurst, M.P., in seconding the motion, said there was no greater mistake than to imagine that there was any jealousy between men's trades unions and those of women.

Such jealousy never existed. After some remarks from Mr. F. Verney, the report was adopted.

By order of the Postmaster-General a number of female clerkships will shortly be filled up.

It is estimated that within the next six months forty vacancies for female clerks will arise in the Post Office. To fill these there will be an open competitive examination, to be held in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, on September 2nd. Preliminary examinations will be held on August 12, in London, Dublin, Bristol, Hull, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Belfast, Swansea, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Norwich, Birmingham, and Leeds. The salary attaching to these clerkships commences at £65, increasing by £3 per annum to £80. Promotion to vacancies in the higher classes depends on merit. The appointment would be forfeited upon marriage.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

DAMES CHEVALIÈRES.—Princess Christian was elected a Dame Chevalière of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England at a meeting of the chapter held lately. The Princess of Wales, the Duchess of Teck, and the Reigning Grand Duchess of Baden, are also on the roll of Dames Chevalières.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.—At the annual general meeting of this society, on June 13th, attention was drawn to the difficulties of the laws of marriage between Englishwomen and foreigners. Several cases had been brought before the society of Englishwomen having married Frenchmen in England, according to English law, who afterwards found that should they go with their husbands to France, it would be entirely optional on the part of the husband whether the marriage duly celebrated in England should be regarded as valid in France.

THE Winchester Diocesan Inspector has allotted the Bishop's Prize to one of the little girls in the Princess Mary Village Homes. In the same school the following prizes have also been gained in the same examination: To girls over eleven years old in the first class, five

were given, and in the second class two; little girls under eleven years in first class got two, and in second one awarded for study of the Bible.

CENSUS.—The result of the Census is now officially declared. The total number of the population of the United Kingdom is 35,246,562, of whom 17,253,947 are males, and 17,992,615 women, or rather more than 739,000 more women than men.

BREAD REFORM LEAGUE.—On June 29th a meeting on this subject was held in the Kensington Town Hall, at which Miss Yates, the hon. sec., read a paper.

ENGLISH GOVERNESSES IN PARIS.—Miss Pryde lately gave an address in the lecture room under St. Jude's Church, South Kensington, in aid of her work in Paris. The subject was the operations during the last ten years of the Governesses' Institute, of which Miss Pryde is honorary secretary. This establishment is an offshoot of another and an earlier one, the Home for English Governesses in Paris, founded in 1868 by Dr. and Mrs. Forbes, and now carried on by Mrs. Furse, 3, bis, Rue Galilée. The institute itself is situated at No. 16, Rue de Tilsitt, and here it appears that many English governesses and reduced gentlewomen have found relief during the last few years. At the same time, like many other deserving institutions, its operations have been somewhat restricted for want of funds, and Miss Pryde made an urgent appeal to her hearers to give their support towards ameliorating the condition of our fellow-countrywomen in Paris. In no city, she remarked, do misery and riches lie side by side as in the French capital, and in no city were there so many persons in reduced circumstances, among whom were a large proportion of Englishwomen. The efforts of charity were directed almost exclusively towards relieving the wants of the lowest class, although much misery existed among educated persons, who were often even more helpless when left destitute. English girls were induced to spend a certain time in Paris, in order that they might acquire the French language, by which their services as governesses were rendered more valuable. This probationary period was a very hard and trying one, beset with temptations; and any one who

would bear this in mind would recognise the importance of the work which the society had undertaken.

**COUNTRY AIR FOR CHILDREN.**—An excellent way of showing kindness to poor children has been suggested and personally carried out by Mrs. Rossiter, whose husband as well as herself are well known for their philanthropic work in Kennington. Mrs. Rossiter has through the summer received groups of eight or ten little girls at a farmhouse near Horsfrith Park, Essex, keeping them for twelve days. She fetches them from the station, looks after them, and supplies everything but the bare cost of their food and their railway tickets. An ordinary "day in the country" excursion with its one or two hundred children of all ages, the noisy vans, the chances of rain, the certainty of over-excitement and fatigue, does almost as much harm as good; very different was the quiet, pretty farmhouse in the midst of woods and commons, and hedges covered with dog-roses and honey-suckle, which the children have time to enjoy and understand. Mrs. Rossiter's kind work might be imitated by many other ladies with great benefit to the children of our crowded streets and alleys.

**PETITIONS FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.**—The Eighteenth Report of Public Petitions gives the number of Petitions presented up to July 4th as 428, with 21,749 signatures.

**MEMORIAL TO MISS STANLEY.**—Many of the friends of the late Miss Mary Stanley, sister to the Dean of Westminster, have desired that some memorial should be raised in England to record the love and veneration with which she was regarded by all who knew her self-devoted exertions for the relief of human sufferings, in the East during the Crimean War, and in later years among the poor in London. It has been suggested that this would be accomplished by collecting funds sufficient to found a bed in the Hospital for Incurables in Great Ormond Street, belonging to the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, the bed to be called the "Mary Stanley." Any subscriptions for this object will be gratefully received by the Countess of Denbigh, 2, Cromwell Houses, S.W.; Lady Borthwick, 60, Eaton Place; Mrs. Thomas

Hughes, 80, Park Street, Grosvenor Square; or Miss Wyse, 18, Powis Square, W.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

- "His Little Mother," by Mrs. Craik.—*Hurst & Blackett.*
- "My Sister the Actress," by Florence Marryat.—*F. V. White.*
- "Honey from the Weed," by M. Cowden Clarke.—*Kegan Paul.*
- "Our Set," by Annie Thomas.—*Tinsley.*
- "Sackcloth and Broadcloth," by Jean Middlemas.—*Tinsley.*
- "Too Red a Dawn," by Mabel Collins.—*Tinsley.*
- "Among the Sons of Ham," by Mrs. T. F. Hughes.—*Tinsley.*
- "David Brown," by Mrs. B. Reilly.—*Sampson Low.*
- "Friends," a Duet, by E. T. Phelps.—*Sampson Low.*
- "The Priest's Blessing," by Harriet Jay.—*J. White.*
- "The Brides of Armore," by Agnes Smith.—*Elliot Stock.*

[From want of space many subjects of much interest, meetings and reports must be postponed till next month.]

### FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

#### FRANCE.

M. CAMILLE SEE, who introduced the law upon the secondary education of girls, has addressed a letter to the Prefect of the Seine, asking him to found a lyceum for girls at Paris. He reminds him that many towns, among others Rouen, le Havre, Montpellier, Chalons-sur-Marne, Grenoble, and Abbeville, have voted for the establishment of these lyceums, since the act of December 31st, 1880. The letter is also signed by Gambetta, Victor Hugo, and nearly all his other colleagues in the department.

THE *Droit des Femmes* publishes an abstract of the criminal statistics in France during the year 1879. It is gratifying to learn that there is a diminution in the total number as compared with four years ago. The very small number of women who are criminals, compared with the men, is extremely striking, out of 4327 persons who were accused at the court of assises, 3733 were men, and only 614 (or 14 per cent.) women. "Who dares, after this, talk of women as the immoral sex?"

WOMEN PAINTERS.—In the salon 612 women have been admitted this year; 198 exhibited pictures; 49 sculptures; and 365 water-colours, drawings, or china paintings.

#### SWITZERLAND.

The great council of the Canton Vaud is at present occupied with questions of civil reform, among these the position of married women finds an important place; and we may hope that shortly some great improvement will be effected.

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ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.

(NEW SERIES.)

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ART. I.—WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN 1739.

IT is very commonly supposed that before the publication of Mary Wollstonecraft's "Vindication of the Rights of Women," in the year 1792, the claims of her sex to educational, civil, and political privileges, similar to those enjoyed by men, had never been advanced, and that questions affecting the social position of women which have since assumed a position of some importance, had not previously received any attention; but this is a mistake, for from the days when Plato (Rep. 5.) argued that in the administration of a State neither woman as woman, nor man as man, has any special function, the gifts of nature being equally distributed amongst both sexes, and Aristophanes, in his *Ecclesiazusæ*, levelled some keen satire at certain ambitious women who aspired to a share in the government; this and cognate questions have been from time to time brought forward, and found in the ranks of both sexes ardent supporters and opponents. Amongst the miscellaneous literature in the British Museum Library, for instance, are the records of some very violent controversies on this subject, which have taken place not only in Italy and France, but in England also, within the last three hundred years. Passing over the arguments of Dr. Gager who, in 1608-9, manfully maintained a husband's right to beat his wife if need be, to keep



her in due subjection, and the "Apology for Women," written in reply by William Heale, of Exeter College, Oxford, whom Anthony Wood, while otherwise praising him, thinks weak, owing to the high esteem in which he held the female sex, we come to three quaint and amusing pamphlets of a somewhat later date that are interesting, as showing the manner in which women's claims were urged a century and a half ago, and the spirit in which even the most moderate of them were received at that period.

The contest was begun in the year 1739, by the publication of a tract, entitled "Woman not Inferior to Man; or, a Short and Modest Vindication of the Rights of the Fair Sex to a Perfect Equality of Power, Dignity, and Esteem with the Men." It is written by "Sophia, a Person of Quality," who complains bitterly of women's subordinate position, and urges with some warmth many sensible arguments in favour of granting them greater educational advantages, and a wider sphere of action. "If a certain writer," she begins, "had not told us that there is nothing in nature so much to be wondered at as that we can wonder at all, it must appear to everyone who has a degree of understanding above the idiot, a matter of the greatest surprize to observe the universal prevalence of prejudice and custom in the minds of the men, since any superiority they possess," she adds, "is only due to the usurpation of physical force, or in the plain language of the period, 'brutal strength.' If this haughty sex would have us believe they have a natural right of superiority over us, why do they not," she asks, "prove their charter from nature by making use of reason to subdue themselves?..... Were we to see men everywhere, at all times, masters of themselves, we should have some colour to think that nature designed them for masters to us."

Several paragraphs are here devoted to proving the way in which prejudice and custom have throughout the history of the world usurped the place of reason and truth. "I should never have done," Sophia says, "was I to reckon up the many absurd notions the men are led into by custom, though there is none more absurd

than that of the great difference they make between their own sex and ours, yet it must be owned there is not any vulgar error more antient or universal, for the learned and illiterate alike are prepossessed with the opinion that men are really superior to women, and that the dependence we now are in is the very state which nature pointed out for us. So that to advance the contrary doctrine after so long a prepossession must appear as great a paradox as it did some years ago to assert that on the nether surface of the globe there were men who walked with their heads downwards to us, and whether the one be not as agreeable to truth as the other will only be found on fair trial." But how to judge a question fairly is the difficulty; could men, our author thinks, be for a moment neutral, they would interpret nature more truly than in refusing women's claim to equality; the office of nursing and bringing up children is not held, she asserts, in sufficient honour. "Soldiers," she says, "are esteemed and rewarded because engaged in defending full-grown men, who are equally and often more capable of defending themselves, how much more then is our sex worthy of esteem and gratitude who labour in their defence when as yet they know not what they are, are unable to distinguish between friends and foes, and are naked of every defence but that of tears. How largely," again she adds, "are they rewarded who succeed in taming a tyger, an elephant, or such like animals, and shall women be neglected for spending years in the taming that fiercer animal, man?"

"Whence," Sophia next enquires, "have men the prerogative to legislate respecting women's sphere, and limit it to serving, pleasing, and obeying those who only became their masters through the 'might is right of a semi-barbarous age?' That they *are* our masters," she says, "they take it for granted, but by what title they are so, not one of them is able to make out. And yet so universally received is this notion among them, that it everywhere prevails, from the prince to the peasant. Nay, I myself was accidentally witness to a diverting scene of a journeyman taylor's beating his wife about the ears with a neck of mutton, to make

her know, as he said, her 'sovereign lord and master.' And yet this perhaps is as strong an argument as the best of their sex is able to produce, though conveyed in a greasy light. Were men always reasonable, they might with some show of fairness," Sophia proceeds, "call upon women to surrender their judgment unconditionally, but seeing that this is not the case, only irrational women can be expected to submit to such authority. Upon what title," and here our author waxes more and more indignant, "upon what title do they build their claim to our services, greater than we can show to theirs. If brutal strength, in which we acknowledge their pre-eminence, is a sufficient plea for their trampling upon us, the lion has a much better title over the whole creation. But that is a more generous brute than those we are speaking of, though not quite so fierce and ungovernable.....I allow, indeed, we ought to make it a part of our business to please the poor things, if the attempt were likely to succeed. It would be quite barbarous to let a child cry, if a rattle would keep it quiet, but the misfortune is, it is a study for life to find out a means of pleasing these greater, more stubborn brats. I have heard it is a vulgar proverb that the devil is good-humoured when he is pleased, and if this proverb, like others, be founded on experience, it is a proof the devil can be pleased sometimes. I wish as good an argument could be brought to prove that the men can ever be pleased. But such is the fantastical composition of their nature that the more pains is taken in endeavouring to please them, the less, generally speaking, is the labour likely to prove successful." Women were certainly, Sophia thinks, created for something better than thus to labour in vain all their life long, though many have urged that it is thus they fulfil the end of their being, having no capacity for any higher vocation than that of being ornamental, and making themselves agreeable. Her indignation appears to have been aroused by some article or pamphlet advocating these theories, for she says, "an ingenious writer, for want of something better to employ his pen about, was pleased lately to renew such notions, lest this age should be ignorant of what

fools have been among his sex in former ones. According to him, the greater part of our sex have but short lucid intervals—but sudden flashes of reason, which vanish in a minute—we have a resemblance to that planet which is dark in itself, and only shines by borrowed light—our wit has but a false lustre, more fit to surprise admiration than deserve it—we are enemies to reflection, the majority of us only reason at hazard, think by sallies, and discourse by rote.” If these or equivalent charges had been brought against men, they would only have been cited, Sophia thinks, as a fresh instance of women's unreasonableness.

Wherever the influence of women is excluded, she says men get on badly enough, and yet they conclude that it is no less due to the influence of Divine Providence than the result of their own sovereign sense which has debarred women from education, government, and lucrative offices, while the pretext given for excluding them from a participation in advanced education, is that study and learning would make them proud and vicious, is pitiful, capricious, and unjust. There is so much that is sensible and now almost universally admitted in what our author says upon this branch of her subject, that one almost wishes she could have taken a peep into futurity, and seen the strides which have been made lately in this direction; it would have been a source of such unmixed satisfaction to so enthusiastic a pioneer in the cause of women's progress, to have seen the rapid spread amongst her sex of the desire for knowledge, for activity, and usefulness, and, moreover, the advantages they now possess in the high-schools for girls, the colleges for women, to say nothing of the latest and most marked indication of the change in public feeling, the resolution to grant degrees to women, carried by the largest vote ever recorded in the Senate of Cambridge University. That much of the illiberality, prejudice, and indifference, of which she then, with truth perhaps, accused the opposite sex, has passed away, is proved by the fact that, though the moment of the Cambridge election was one of great political excitement, no less than forty Members of Parliament managed to leave London for the purpose of voting with the majority

Many of Sophia's remarks on education have now become such universally received opinions, that they seem to the modern reader trite and commonplace, but no doubt they were startling enough to her contemporaries, and were not allowed to pass without much criticism. "But what a wretched circle," she says, "are her opponents drawn into, when they argue that learning is useless to women, because they have no share in public affairs, and when, on being asked why have they no share in public affairs? they can only answer, 'because women are too thoughtless and ignorant.'" And this leads her to the question of why men persuade themselves that women are less fitted for many public employments than they are? Can they give any better reason than custom and prejudice? "If women are but considered," she says, "as rational creatures, abstracted from the disadvantages imposed upon them by the unjust usurpation and tyranny of the men, they will be found to the full as capable of filling important offices, while, if from immemorial time, the men had been so little envious, and so very impartial, as to do justice to our talents by admitting us to our right to share with them in public action, they would have grown as accustomed to see us filling public offices, as we are to see them disgrace them?"

With some show of reason and no small ingenuity, though in the same uncomplimentary strain, Sophia proceeds to prove that, granted a proper training, women are well qualified for all the learned professions with one exception; they should not be allowed, she considers, to occupy the pulpit. "The teaching of the Bible," she says, "clearly discourages it, but why? Because the general tendency of men to impiety and irreligion is so great that the functions of religion are confined to that sex to attract *some* of them at least to those duties they have such a general apathy for." While, as regards the military profession, she considers men to be peculiarly fitted for it, on the principle which makes sailors in a storm "throw overboard their more useless lumber."

Such heretical notions as these were not likely to remain long unchallenged, and before "Woman not

*Inferior to Man* " was in a second edition, which it soon reached—for it seems to have attracted much attention—there appeared an answer in a brochure entitled, "Man Superior to Woman, or a Vindication of Man's Natural Right of Sovereign Authority over the Woman," the author of which appears (on the *lucus a non lucendo* principle) under the not very appropriate *nom de plume* of "a gentleman;" for his expressions, like his prejudices, are at times strong, not to say coarse, when in his wrath at Sophia's presumption he seems, like Dr. Bentley in Swift's "Battle of the Books," to be "half-choked with spleen and rage." He begins, however, by asserting that it is entirely out of tenderness for her sex that he undertakes to "confute Sophia's fallacious arguments;" that he entertains the most kindly feelings towards them, but is impelled by justice to his own sex to defend its prerogatives when openly attacked "by the too daring ambition of the other," a revolt which he finds extremely out of place, since "the little glimmering of reason that heaven bestowed on them out of compassion to us, that they might be in some degree a sort of rational amusement to us, should be sufficient to convince them of the justness of their subjection." So far from complaining, and being dissatisfied with the position of vassals, women ought, he considers, to be supremely grateful for the privilege of reigning in the hearts of their lords. Hitherto, he says, men have been too generous to grudge them this, having no danger to apprehend from leaving their hearts in the keeping of women, while the heads of the fair keepers remained in due subjection; but he warns Sophia, as the representative of her sex, that from the minute women forget their allegiance, and presume to call in question the great duty of vassalage, men will withdraw their hearts from the presumptuous fair one's power. "They can no longer be safe," he says, "in the custody of such women as refuse to submit their heads to our authority." This gentleman's arguments are almost as feeble as his threats are empty. "The industry of women," he says, "in all ages, to make themselves pleasing to the opposite sex, is a standing proof that this is the great purpose for which they were

created, and their ambition ought to soar no higher than to the obtaining the love and esteem of men, the possession of which is the greatest happiness they are capable of enjoying. But they will have no title left to men's favour and indulgence from the moment they begin to dispute their title and prerogative. It is inconceivable," he exclaims, "that anyone of that sex should be so much an enemy to herself and the rest, as to risk the forfeiture of that liberty which the men have so graciously raised them to, merely for the sake of grasping at a libertinism which they are sure of never attaining to. Ambition to be considered an author," he supposes, "is Sophia's motive for her excessive extravagance and presumption that, after a prescription which scarce any duration but that of eternity can out-date, has surprizingly found out that men are not superior to women in anything but what she is pleased to call "brutal strength." Such an assertion, he is convinced, would have the most disastrous consequences if generally listened to by women.

The next passage can only be done justice to by a full quotation: "Safe in the Paradise of our protecting love, they are sure of happiness, while conscious of the blessing, they persist in deserving it by their fidelity and obedience. But if once they give ear to this fair, fallen angel, like true daughters of their first fickle parent, Eve, the flattering bait of power, dignity, and knowledge will cheat them of their happiness, and, by exciting them to disobey, will banish them the sanctuary of our hearts, their only asylum from scorn and wretchedness."

After enlarging in the same strain of eloquence upon the sad condition of such women as suffer themselves to be led astray by the sophistry of that "dexterous female," (Sophia), our author proceeds to the refutation of her arguments; for though the less liberal of his own sex may think it dangerous to trust women to judge of anything where reason is concerned, "on account of the weakness of their intellects, which seldom can reach higher than a head-dress," yet he is inclined to be more generous, and will therefore try to bring his arguments down to the level of the feminine

comprehension, having no desire for his readers to lose themselves in "the maze of theory—a ground too holy for female feet to tread with impunity." If he should, occasionally, fall short of the mark of extreme simplicity, it will be only that he may "recover his bewildered fair antagonist from the danger of straying out of her latitude." All his desire is to render her and her sex "less pernicious to themselves" in their desire to prove the power of men over women due to any cause but reason and nature; and to this end he starts with the good old Tory theories, that the longer a custom has existed, the stronger is the presumption in favour of its being a right one; that whatever wars against an established practice and precedent, is dangerous, subversive, and calculated

"To sap the very basis of all civilised society."

Women, he says, were never yet treated as other than subordinates and inferiors "in any one nation made up of both sexes" (our author withholds the information as to where the peculiar people made up of one sex only is, or was to be found). In England, he says, where they are most esteemed, this has always been the case; and, as regards other countries, he proceeds to give us a fancy picture of woman's position in different parts of the globe, to be, of course, unhesitatingly accepted as proof of their belonging to a lower order of creation. In China, for instance, they are permitted, he says, to see no one but their husbands and children, "their feet being kept small, to prevent their gadding," while throughout the greater number of even civilized nations, wives "are but housemaids for life." "In England alone it is that they are raised to the office of dissipators of our more intense thoughts, amusing lullers of our care and application, and a kind of under-companions to us when reason is disposed to relax." It is not possible, he says, that women should be raised to any higher position than this, "considering their natural incapacity."

It is doubtless for this reason, he continues, that the wisest lawgivers, in founding their commonwealths, have never once established anything in favour of an equality between both sexes, their laws tending, on the



contrary, only to confirm women's subjection; and "no woman in her senses" could possibly doubt that this is the proper order of things. The author, had he lived in these days, would certainly have advocated the building of asylums for the sane people, seeing the large and increasing number of thoughtful women who distinctly come under his classification as lunatics; and since he would probably agree with Festus as to the dangerous effect of learning upon the intellect, their condition might be used by him as another argument against allowing girls any education whatever.

But here is another strong point: "The general content with which they submit is a plain proof that they look upon submission as a natural duty they owe to us, and that, conscious of the legalness of our authority, they pass the same judgment on their dependency as every man does, insomuch that both sexes appear convinced that their souls are as different as their bodies." The third chapter of Genesis, and St. Paul are quoted; but these not being sufficiently convincing for the purpose in hand, the author invents a novel and entertaining theory of his own concerning the Creation. Man was formed, it seems, "a good, noble, and intelligent creature, to lord it over this vast universe;" that he might have something in common with the other creatures, he was made of the dust of the ground; but his Maker "finding that alloy too strong for the perfection He designed to give him, extracted from the rest of his body whatever he found of mean, imperfect, and favouring too much of the animal, and confined it to a single rib, which had undoubtedly been annihilated but for the wisdom of this all-powerful Contriver, which is capable of assigning a use to the most useless things in themselves. The Creator, then, loth to destroy anything however despicable in itself, which had any relation to this his favourite creature, and knowing that Man was as yet unprovided with a proper vehicle to convey down his being to posterity, took from him this rib—this sink of his defects—and shaped it into Woman, little concerned about any perfections in the soil, but such as immediately tend to the production of the noble fruit for which it was saved from reprobation;

therefore "this pretty expletive of Nature" was endowed with a fair and attractive exterior; but so many are her frailties and foibles, that he is convinced

"Heaven took Man sleeping when He Woman made,  
Had he been waking, he had ne'er consented."

Our author allows however, that, incomprehensible though it is, some good motive their Maker must have had for thus forming of the same lump "one vessel to honour, the other to dishonour."

Sophia's argument, he says, that if Adam's being made after all the other animals is a proof of his right to rule over them, then Eve on the same principle can claim superiority to him "arises from the vulgar error that woman was created at all, whereas any understanding inferior to that of woman, if such a being could exist, would be capable of discerning that the production of that weak sex was no distinct creation, but only a refinement of man's noble composition by purifying and separating it from the dross." Women are at best "but mere half-creatures, a kind of amphibious thing," but they deserve some attention "in consideration of the part they play in the propagation of human nature, as a field does on account of the vegetation it produces," yet this is no reason he asserts, that they should be considered on a level with the men they bring forth, any more than the mould in a garden should be deemed as valuable as the fruit it produces. Even in the office of rearing children, of which Sophia makes so much, men are far from owing them the debt of gratitude she claims. In fact, this gentleman's private opinion is, that the majority of women are so injudicious, that most of the mischief in the world comes from their mode of bringing up children, and that if handed over to the care of the male sex as soon as they were born, infants would thrive better both physically and mentally.

As regards equality of intellectual faculties, women are so infinitely inferior, that he would not, "having many higher objects to employ his speculations on, take up time in proving the same, had not Sophia been woman enough to call such a palpable truth in question." "Need we," he politely asks, "look any further

than their simpering, silly 'faces, to fathom the perceptible depth of their understandings. A thoughtless stare, a wild vivacity, a sleepy pertness, giddy gravity, or some such other sense-defying look betrays in all, the narrow space between the surface and the centre of their mimic wit. . . . What is all their discourse but froth? What inspires it but venom?" Finally, this gentle mentor of the female sex works himself up into such a pitch of indignation at Sophia's audacity, that he has not a single good word left to say for the "amphibious things" he has taken it upon him to reprove. No greater sign of their foolishness, he says, could possibly be needed than the repugnance they generally display to the society of sensible men, and their admiration "for fops, whose laced waistcoats, smart trousers, light heels, and lighter heads, are all they have to recommend them. It would be an endless toil to enumerate the many instances which women, that thought-aborring sex, have at all times, and on all occasions furnished of the preference they give to fools before men of sense." If the writer had been smarting under the contempt or neglect of any lady in particular, or of the sex in general, this would account for much, but as (according to his own theory), he must have been treated with distinguished favour, he can scarcely be considered as other than ungrateful, in return for such marked "admiration" and "preference."

He concedes, however, that there have been some women who tried to reason and almost succeeded in it, though alas, poor pretty creatures, they have neither breath nor brains to drink of knowledge deeply," and at the best fall far short as Sophia's essay proves, of man's superior wisdom." In fact "the greatest poets, the most eminent divines, the brightest orators, the ablest historians, the most skilful physicians, and the profoundest philosophers, in a word, all who have been famous for excellence in learning, wisdom, or parts, have condemned the women to perpetual subjection as less noble, less perfect, and constantly inferior to men." Their invincible curiosity and innate aversion to secrecy alone would make them entirely unfit for any public office or position of responsibility, in proof of which is quoted

Plutarch's story of the senator, who being teased by his wife to reveal what had taken place during the morning's debate, told her as a profound secret that a lark had flown over the senate-house with a golden helmet on his head, and a spear in his claws, upon which the augurs had been consulted to know what this portended. The wife, we are told, lost no time in circulating this wonderful story, but on being accused afterwards of breach of confidence and the trouble she would bring upon her husband, she denied having said a word, and asked how with three hundred senators present, should he be the only one to have mentioned the strange occurrence, being greatly abashed when he acknowledged that the incident was a pure invention of his own, and could have therefore been spread by no one but herself.

Having thus conclusively proved, to his own satisfaction, at any rate, the untrustworthiness of womankind, our author proceeds to argue from this particular instance, that women in general are totally unfitted by nature to be the friends, companions, or confidantes of men, and that therefore it is a waste of trouble to educate them, in fact, their natures are so inherently bad, that the less they are developed the better, pleasant looks and manners are all men demand of these "poor tender things." "Certainly," he says, "when unbending the mind from study, we seek in their native folly a respite from sense and speculation, but why should we put them to the pains of learning to entertain us with that nonsense and ignorance in several languages?"

As regards the question of women's work, this gentleman thinks there is only one profession in which they are by nature fitted to succeed, and that is the law, for though "to complete a man a knave, it is necessary to make a lawyer of him, in this sense every woman is from her cradle a lawyer, wanting no instruction in lying, dissembling, cajoling, undermining, equivocating, and barefacedly cheating." The study of any branch of science is quite out of the question, all being based upon reason, with which women have nothing to do. "Would my fair antagonist," he asks, "think horses a

fit party for her at quadrille. . . . or would she like to be confined to the conversation of parrots because many of them can talk a great deal? No. Neither can we deem the women fit associates for us in the study of sciences because a few have had a tolerable smattering of them."

Finally, this "courteous knight" sums up by reiterating that the wise in all ages have been of his opinion, that women are, at best, flattering, pleasing, desirable evils, and giving amongst other illustrative anecdotes, the story of Democritus, who when asked why so big a man as he had chosen so very small a wife, replied, "Methinks, after all, I have chosen one too big where all I have had to choose from must be evil;" and of Protagoras, who when asked why he had given his daughter in marriage to his greatest enemy, answered, "Because I could give him nothing worse than a wife." These incontestible proofs of women's worthlessness lead up to the climax of indignation and contempt in which the best of them are designated as but a "fairer kind of fiends, disguised in angel's dresses, whose actions are the best antidotes to the poison of their charms. . . . . How unlike are these pretty little-more-than-nothings to that lordly creature whose superiority of merit as well as power and prerogative, their impotent desire to be like him might alone suffice to convince them of."

Though this gentleman deals rather in vague assertion and general vituperation than in solid argument, he yet had, doubtless, in those days many sympathisers and supporters, but Sophia was ready and able to deal with any number of them, for hastening to reply, she claims in her next pamphlet not equality alone, but actual superiority to a sex which could produce such an example of combined weakness and prejudice. Her next pamphlet is entitled: "Woman's Superior Excellence over Man. A Reply to the Author of a Treatise entitled 'Man Superior to Woman,' in which the excessive weakness of that gentleman's answer to 'Woman not Inferior to Man,' is exposed, &c., &c."

Her first enquiry into the question of women's natural rights, she says, had been undertaken with some mis-

givings lest woman's sphere and capacity would be found equally narrow, for while anxious to benefit her sex, she had not shaken off entirely, at that time, the influence of prejudice. Still she had thought the subject worth enquiring into, since no women or men either can possibly answer the end of their being in the faithful discharge of all they *ought* to do, without at first becoming acquainted with all they are *able* to do. Having begun her enquiries in this spirit, she became more and more dissatisfied with the existing state of things, and more and more convinced of women's capacity for something higher. The first thing that struck her was the great advantage education gave to men, and the injury women suffered owing to its discouragement in the case of girls involving the loss of an immense fund of knowledge and discovery by which the world might otherwise have profited. "If two heads are better than one," she says, "two thousand enquiries must in course be better than one thousand, and would, in all probability, make at least double the discoveries," therefore she concludes that at the lowest computation, one-half the profitable knowledge which the human race might have possessed has been irreparably lost, through the indolence of women in this particular, and the illiberality of men: the first in not exerting their talents, the second in denying them advantages and putting difficulties in their way.

"It must be owned," she says, referring to her opponent, "that this gentleman would have been a very formidable adversary, had his strength been equal to his courage. For my part, I no sooner saw his first solemn strut towards the lists than I dreaded all for myself and sex . . . and was at the point of surrendering at discretion, and with a submissive address, '*As you are strong be merciful.*' But how great was my surprise when I beheld at his approach the giant dwindle to a dwarf, the Achilles to a Hector, nay the Hector to a Thersites. . . . What thanks his goodwill may deserve from the men I shall leave them to determine, but I am very sure that they owe him none for the manner of expressing it, while we must be indebted to him for the very eminent service he has effectually,

though undesignedly, done us, in his impotent endeavours to wound us." Had he remained silent, Sophia continues, his silence might have been taken for contempt, instead of which, in attempting to answer he has only weakened his cause and strengthened hers, since a weak defence is ever the surest way to make a bad cause worse. Does he, she asks, "imagine all the men to be so perverse as not to be reasoned into justice and generosity, while they may make use of the mean methods of fallacy and evasion? Or does he take all women for such easy idiots that they are to be coaxed out of their natural rights?" She is determined to show that there is at least one woman capable of preferring truth to flattery, sense to sound.

And though her opponent, she says, has, in agreement with his purpose of decrying women, ransacked the rubbish of antiquity, yet in the eyes of every one who thinks justly, any man, ancient or modern, is a Cato, and every Cato a fool, as often as he advances more than he can prove, or believes more than he has sufficient grounds for believing; while no assertion unbacked by reasons is worth any attention.

"Now, I would fain," she continues, "ask any one of my impartial readers, who has perused the answer of my antagonist, what one solid reason which can justify belief has he given throughout that piece, for all the voluntary assertions of his own or any of the authors he has quoted?" And how, she enquires, does he attempt to support his assumed superiority? He pleads universal custom and antiquity, as though anything could be more common or more ancient than prejudice and error. The argument that women have themselves consented to accept an inferior position is, she says, equally fallacious, so long as anything like real education is denied them. No; men must in the first place "vindicate their engrossing the advantages of education and learning, by proving that monopoly grounded on reason," for even were it proved that girls are not fitted by genius or inclination to excel in any branch of learning, this would be no argument against giving them the advantages of a better education, unless such advantages were also denied to all boys who give no

prospect of distinguishing themselves. "I do not pretend," she adds, "that all women are capable of all employments, neither can the men, forward as they are, have the confidence to make any such pretensions. No, all I intended in my first essay to show was that, considering both sexes in a fair light, it must be owned that we have an equal aptitude to sense and virtue to the men, and consequently an equal right to power, dignity, and esteem; but since some are so ungenerous as to disallow this modest pretension and the gentleman, (her antagonist) is so weak as to dispute her claim to equality until she can prove *superiority*, she thinks it only fair to her sex to accept his challenge.

"My adversary," she proceeds, seems to triumph mightily in the Scriptural texts he has produced;" but if his arguments had been only weighed, there would have been found in them little to the purpose; *e.g.*, our translators have rendered the verse quoted from Genesis iii., "Thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall *rule* over thee," though the Latin, "*Et ipse dominabitur tui*," may be equally translated, "and he shall domineer over thee"—not uttered in the form of a precept, but a mere statement of what should come to pass. "The pretty whimsical flight of imagination," she says, with which her adversary diverts himself concerning the creation, may, for aught she knows, supply the place of demonstration amongst the wittings of his own sex, and had she less compassion for his weakness, she might also have felt amused."

What she considers most unfair (in reference to some of the gentleman's witticisms, which it has been necessary to omit) is to cite a few well-known instances of women's depravity, and to assume from this that the whole sex is naturally depraved. "Are all to be vilified," she asks, "because a few have forfeited their natural modesty? . . . And, if I may ask a fair question, upon a just and unbiased computation, which of the two sexes is most notorious for breaches of the moral law?"

Again in reply to his reproaching women for their vanity, Sophia says this is mostly due to the fact that men set an undue value on personal attractions, and



discourage mental cultivation, and that women are naturally inclined to make the most of what men most appreciate. "If then," she says, "we are capable of improving even the least advantages they have the honesty to allow us, how infinitely should we not surpass them had we free access to all we have a right to in common with them. . . . I will forbear in pity to my adversary, ungenerous as he is, to make any observations on the ascendancy he gives us over his own sex in the plans of pleasure, pride and luxury, since if the men are such intolerable dunces in their favourite pursuits as to allow themselves inferior to such of our sex as tread the same paths in complaisance to them, how little right must they not have even to an equal capacity with us in all that is great and good, which is as much against the grain to them as it is natural to us." The "clumsy strength of their awkward outsides," she says, is a proof of nothing but weight, and to imagine that a man's skull must needs be filled with sense because it is strong and thick, would be as absurd as to have maintained "that the mountains of ice which were lately upon the Thames must needs be durable because they were thick—let but truth and sunshine break forth, either error will appear too gross for any but a man to give in to." The men, Sophia asserts, lay a mighty stress on the laws concerning women, because, hoodwinked by custom they "blindly conceit" that they are infallible decrees, and that it is not they but Nature which excludes women from power, dignity and public offices, but she would very much like to know what, in this case is to be understood by nature, and in what manner Nature has empowered men to make such laws without consulting women. The plea of inferiority she refuses to admit, for granting an equal capacity in both sexes, it is a greater wonder (considering the inequality of their education), that one woman should have been wise or learned, than if all men without exception were so. Sophia is, she declares, no advocate for women departing from their true character, but because they possess the graces of modesty, humility and reserve, this is no proof of their not possessing also such sense, conduct, courage and spirit as, if allowed to exercise

the same unchecked by custom and prejudice, would enable them to fill, both for their own benefit and that of the community, much wider spheres than have ever yet been suffered to come within their reach.

Whether Sophia's opponent was crushed by the weight of her arguments, or whether, though unconvinced on all other points, he yet was of her opinion on one, viz., that silence was his wisest course, is not recorded, but no further correspondence was published, and the lady may therefore be considered to have had the last as well as the best of the dispute, to add to her sense of satisfaction in having fought bravely for an unpopular cause in the face of prejudice, ridicule and contempt.

E. HOSKEN.

32, Queen Square, W.C.

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## ART. II.—NOTES OF PROGRESS.

THE *Woman's Journal*, of Boston, furnishes us with two memoranda concerning the low opinion of women's capacity formerly prevailing in Massachusetts, which are useful landmarks, showing the advance that has silently taken place this century. In the last generation there was no public school instruction at all for girls in Plymouth, Massachusetts. When this question was discussed in the town meeting, there was great opposition to granting them the privilege. One man from the south part of the town arose and said: "I am opposed to instructing girls. If we teach them, suppose I should be writing, a woman might come in and look over my shoulder, and say, 'That word is spelled wrong,' and I should not like that. I am entirely opposed to instructing girls." But notwithstanding the opposition, it was voted to give the girls of Plymouth one hour's instruction daily. After the teacher had spent the morning hours from eight to eleven teaching the boys, he was to teach the girls from eleven to twelve. The school was kept

in a room in the town house, and the girls were expected to wait outside till the boys came out.

Another reminiscence dates further back; it is taken from Hood's and Gould's "History of Church Music in America." Many of the Puritans had grave doubts whether women as well as men should be allowed to sing in church, inasmuch as it was disobeying St. Paul's injunction that women should not be heard in public. When part singing was first introduced, which was practically done by Andrew Law, of Connecticut, about the beginning of this century, it met with the strongest opposition, on the ground that it was encroaching on the lawful prerogative of men, to give women the governing part; the male singers insisted on singing the soprano, and leaving the tenor for the ladies. Our authority says: "We have seen a long and labored treatise to prove it to be wrong on many accounts to suffer the part to be sung by females; it being contrary to Scripture, and of course a sin for females to take the lead in singing or any other religious exercise." These views seem to have been held by the most bigoted and fanatic of the Pilgrims, and were combated by their more cultured ministers. From the beginning there was always a small party who took broader and wiser views of the subject; there were musical families, doubtless, who kept the art from quite dying out in the wilderness.

Gradually, doubtless, it was discovered that allowing women to take the soprano part in singing hymns did not necessarily introduce discord into families, or overturn Society.

Will not the present objections to the complete equality, legal, educational, and social, of women, be considered as groundless and ridiculous in the next generation, as these two instances appear now to us?

We may add to these "Notes" a letter by Mr. Samuel Sewall, on the improvements in the Massachusetts Legislation for Women in 1881.

Whatever complaints may be made of the General Court, for neglecting to do full justice to women, it cannot be denied that every year, for a long time, it has passed one or more acts intended for the special benefit of their sex.

This year several measures of this kind were presented for the consideration of the Legislature, some of which failed of success, while others were passed and are now in full force. The most important is the act amending the statute of 1879, authorizing women to vote for members of school committees. By the law of 1879, the payment of a State or county tax was made a pre-requisite to voting. By that just passed, the payment of any tax in any city or town is sufficient for the purpose. What is gained by this change is this: By an act passed in 1879, all the State and county taxes are to be assessed on polls, but if either exceeds one dollar, the excess over that amount is to be assessed on property. In some places neither the State nor county tax exceeded one dollar. In those places female citizens who had paid property taxes, became bound to pay poll taxes also to gain a right to vote. This state of the law occasioned great annoyance, not merely by forcing ladies to pay a poll tax, in addition to a property tax, but also by denying the right of voting to some of them who had supposed that the payment of the property tax had secured it. The new act prevents this vexation in future.

The second section of the act adds after the words "true list of her estate both real and personal," which every woman is obliged to furnish who desires to pay a poll tax, the words "not exempt from taxation." This addition was rendered necessary, because some assessors had called upon women to include in their lists all their property, whether subject to taxation or not. This was a contracted, and in my opinion false construction of the statute; but it was not the less impertinent and vexatious.

The same section provides that a woman's poll tax shall not exceed fifty cents, and extends the time for applying to pay a poll tax to October fifth.

The third section provides that when a woman's name has been placed on the voting list of any city or town, it shall continue on the list as long as she resides there and pays taxes seasonably.

On the whole, this act, as far as it goes, is excellent, and those who passed it may well be thanked, without, however, giving up our reserved right of charging the Legislature with narrowness for refusing women the right to vote in town meetings on all matters relating to schools.

An important addition to the regulation of the reformatory prison for women provides that, when it appears to the commissioners of prisons that any prisoner in a reformatory prison has reformed, they may give her a permit to be at liberty during the remainder of her term, on such conditions as they deem best; and they may revoke the permit at any time before its expiration. This seems better than the unconditional discharge of a prisoner which they were previously authorized to give. This act indicates, what is already well established, how well the reformatory prison is working, and how capable women are of managing such institutions.

Another act provides that the commissioners of prisons may employ a woman as their agent in rendering assistance to female prisoners discharged from prisons, whose duty shall be to counsel them, assist them in getting employment, and render them, under the commissioners' direction, such pecuniary aid as she deems advisable.

Her salary is not to exceed 700 dols., and the whole sum expended under the act is not to exceed 3000 dols. This is much more liberal than previous acts on the subject.

Events move so much more rapidly than formerly that every anniversary now gives us fresh cause for thankfulness for the substantial progress that is made, in this and other countries.

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### ART. III.—WOMEN'S INVENTIONS.

AT the Sanitary Exhibition last month, in London, only one lady was an exhibitor. She invented the article she exhibited, a pretty, graceful thing, the "Floral Art Ventilator," giving sweetness, light and air to any room.

It is a pity that women do not more frequently, in England, turn their attention towards the invention of articles of domestic comfort and utility. In former times, we were told, it was owing to some deficiency in the female brain that there were so few inventors among women, but the American women have disproved this assertion. Some one, who has taken the trouble to count the patents issued in America to women, finds that the number for the year ending July, 1880, was seventy, or ten more than the average. Most of the inventions of women have to do with household appliance. Among the past year's are a jar-lifter, a bag-holder, a pillow-sham-holder, dress-protector, two dust-pans, a washing-machine, a fluting-iron, a dress-chart, a fish-boner, a sleeve-adjuster, a lap-table, a sewing-machine-treadle, a wash-basin, an iron-heater, sad-irons, a garment-stiffener, a folding chair, a wardrobe bed, a weather strip, a churn, an invalid's bed, a strainer, a milk-cooler, a sofa-bed, a dipper, a paper-dish, and a plating-device.

Another invention, by an American lady, Mrs. Stearns, is what is described as a "Diagram and System for Cutting Ladies and Children's Garments." She issued

her first invention in 1864, and in 1867 an "Improved Folding Diagram." In 1868 the Massachusetts Mechanics' Association awarded her a silver medal. At the Centennial Exhibition, in 1876, she again received the highest award. It is described as being simple and accurate, easily learned, and cutting out most economically.

Another invention, or rather discovery, due to a woman, is that of Menhaden oil, a kind of fish oil, which is now so extensively used that in Maine eighteen factories have been built from 1866 to 1876, and in 1877, 2,631 persons were employed in this Menhaden oil business. This is the account of its discovery in the *Woman's Journal*:—"About the year 1850, Mrs. John Bartlett, of Blue Hill, near Mount Desert, Me., while boiling some fish for her chickens, noticed a thick scum of oil upon the surface of the water. Some of this she bottled, and when on a visit to Boston soon after, she carried samples to Mr. E. B. Phillips, one of the leading oil merchants of that city, who encouraged her to bring more. The following year the Bartlett family industriously plied their gill-nets, and sent to market thirteen barrels of oil, for which they were paid at the rate of 11 dols. per barrel, in all 143 dols. Whether the woman above-mentioned was the first to obtain oil from the Menhaden or not, she was the first to bring it into commercial notice, and, considering all the circumstances, she deserves the credit of discovery."

Another lady, a Norwegian, though living in Chicago, Madame Olenson, is an excellent cabinet maker, and the furniture which she sent to the American Centennial Exhibition received the highest awards. She has manufactured nearly all her wooden tools, and a greater part of her steel ones. Her cornices, picture frames, tables and chairs, are all her own design and construction. She has a bedstead that is magnificently carved, an organ inlaid with precious woods, and a writing table constructed of 3,000 pieces of wood, of which the design is unique. She learned how to carve from her father in Norway, and has improved on his instructions.

We have instanced more particularly these articles of domestic importance, because this is the branch of work

to which women have had their attention exclusively turned for so many generations, and in which we may fairly expect them to use their ingenuity. Many more years of free access to colleges, and thorough and scientific training must pass away before we could fairly expect any woman to equal men in scientific discovery. We have no reason to suppose that women are naturally cleverer on the other side of the Atlantic than here, though at present they are apparently more original thinkers, and they are more self-dependent, also the law of patents is easier, and more encouraging to inventors. But there must be many an ingenious contrivance for facilitating household industry, or beautifying home life, thought out by the quick wits, or wrought by the deft fingers of Englishwomen, and a little more determination to make their invention generally useful, and business knowledge to bring it to account, are all that are needful to place a larger percentage of women on the roll call of inventors.

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#### ART. IV.—WOMEN IN NATAL.

A PARLIAMENTARY paper on the relation of civilised to savage customs, especially with reference to Natal, has been issued, and throws some light upon the condition of women with regard to the dowry. The Africans have often been blamed, like the English, for selling their wives. This custom, called "Ukubola," is explained in some detail by Sir Theophilus Shepstone; he says:—

Regarding the suggestion "to do away with women-selling legislation," I consider that it is a misapprehension to say that the selling of women among the natives either exists or has been legislated for in Natal. It is true that on the occasion of a marriage some consideration more or less valuable—such as cattle, when cattle are to be had—passes from the man's family to that of the woman. But this is not a sale of the woman; the husband cannot sell her, or in any way dispose of her to another; she does not become his chattel in any sense of the word, nor he her owner in the sense of owning property,

and the consideration given to her father at her marriage becomes practically a security for her proper treatment, and a provision for her support, should her marriage become dissolved on account of ill-treatment; because in that event the girl returns to her father's family, and the consideration is not returned to the husband or his family. The practice which I have described is not a woman-selling, as has been supposed by those who are not sufficiently informed on the subject; and the abolition of it, before the social condition of the natives is sufficiently raised to supply the guarantees which this practice furnishes, would, in my opinion, be a grave mistake.

It is not quite true, therefore, that the suitor buys the girl from her father, neither is the girl put up to auction and knocked down like a slave to the highest bidder. Cattle are presented by the man or his family to the husband or family of the woman. But the bride does not become the chattel of the purchaser. The cattle are really kept by the father as hostages for the good treatment of his daughter. If she were ill-treated she would return to her family, but the cattle would not be sent back. The right of proprietorship on the part of the woman's family over her does not seem to be much modified by the transaction. The price in cattle is really a kind of caution money, to be kept by her family for her maintenance, if ever, owing to the husband's ill-treatment, she is returned upon their hands. But before we can accept this savage law as actually satisfactory, compared with civilised customs, we should like to know if the girl is free to make an objection to the bargain which her father has struck? Has she any rights of her own, not as against her husband, but against her own family claims?

A case occurred the other day in Algeria, which shows that French jurists have the same difficulties to deal with among their barbarous subjects. There the girl was sold for 300 francs by a wretched father who had done nothing for either her mother or herself for years, to a man whom she had never seen, and who simply made his appearance one day and said he had come to take her away with him. She appealed to Arab law, and the man's claims were confirmed; she then appealed to the French courts, with, we regret to say, the same result. She is now married to the man who bought her against her will. Whether such a transfer is made for money or cattle matters nothing to



civilisation, nor is it of much importance whether it is paid by the husband to the girl's family, or passed from the family to the husband for his sole use and benefit, as was till lately the case in civilised England. What is of importance is that the woman herself shall be a free agent, and of this the parliamentary papers give us no information.

## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### LONDON UNIVERSITY.

THE July examination lists for the London University have been issued, and we may record with great satisfaction the names of several ladies who have passed successfully the first B.A., the first B.Sc., and the Preliminary Scientific (M.B.) Examinations.

#### FIRST B.A. EXAMINATION.

Fifteen ladies passed in the first and nine in the second division.

#### FIRST DIVISION—

ALDEN, Kate, Bedford College.

CLAY, Henrietta Elizabeth, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

CLUER, Gertrude Agnes Jane, University College.

COLLET, Edith Sophia, North London Collegiate School and Bedford College.

COWELL, Lilian Annie, North London Collegiate School.

GRAY, Sarah Louisa, Birkbeck Institution.

GREENER, Janet, Milton Mount, Gravesend.

LEE, Alice Elizabeth, Bedford College.

MACRAE, Fanny, private study.

MIALL, Hilda Caroline, Queen's College and North London Collegiate School.

PAGE, Annie, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

THOMPSON, Edith Mary, Queen's College, Harley Street.

THOMSON, Edith Maude, Bedford College.

TOPHAM, Margaret Rachel, Queen's College, Harley Street.

WILLIAMS, Edith Rosa, Bedford College.

SECOND DIVISION—

BIRT, Alice, private study.

BROWN, Harriet Hewett, Waterloo High School and Bedford College.

DUNNELL, Ada, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

GREGSON, Sarah Gertrude, private study.

JOHNSON, Mary Leonora, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

MOSCARDI, Maria Grace Ellen, Bedford College.

NUGENT, Margaret Alice, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

RICHARDS, Florence, Queen's College and North London Collegiate School.

WEBB, Rebecca Langford, Bedford College.

FIRST B.Sc. EXAMINATION.

In the first division, out of sixteen who passed, three were women. In the second division two out of twenty-one.

FIRST DIVISION—

HODGKINSON, Mary, University College, Bristol.

MITCHELL, Alice, Bedford College.

SCOTT, Charlotte Angas, Girton College.

SECOND DIVISION—

BUSK, Marian, private tuition and study.

WEBB, Mary Isabella, Bedford College.

PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC (M.B.) EXAMINATION.

Three ladies have passed in the first and one in the second division.

FIRST DIVISION—

\*BESANT, Annie, private tuition (who has also passed in the Mathematics of the first B.Sc. Examination, and has thus become admissible to the second B.Sc.)

PALMER, Alice Mary, private tuition.

WEBB, Helen, London School of Medicine for Women.

SECOND DIVISION—

BERNARD, Letitia Caroline, London School of Medicine for Women.

## MATRICULATION EXAMINATION, JUNE.

Ten ladies have passed in the Honours division at the June Matriculation Examination, viz.:—

SEWARD, Margaret, Blackbourne House, Liverpool, and Somerville Hall, who obtained the number of marks qualifying for a prize.

LAWRENCE, Alice Lucy, Notting Hill High School.

TOONE, Elizabeth Fanny, Bath High School.

ALLEN, Edith, North London Collegiate School.

CLARK, Ada Bertha, Edinburgh Association for Education of Women.

BROWN, Louisa, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

BREBNER, Mary, Ladies' Classes, Aberdeen, and private tuition.

SMITH, Alice Garrett, Bedford College.

STEWART, Gertrude Amy, North London Collegiate School for Girls.

MASON, Marie Isabel, Notting Hill High School.

Fifty-two ladies have also obtained places in the first division, and five in the second division. The former are as follows:—

## FIRST DIVISION—

BARLOW, Alice, Bedford College.

BARRETT, Louisa M. E., Queen's College, Harley Street.

BARRITT, Alice Maude, Mount School, York.

BLUNT, Rosa Catherine, Queen's College, Harley Street.

BROOKE, Agnes Edith, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

CHAMNEY, Sophia Watson,

COOKE, Mary Emily, Highbury and Islington High School.

DALTRY, Mary Jane, School of Science and Art, Newcastle.

DAWE, Annie, Chelsea and Notting Hill High Schools and Bedford College.

DAWES, Elizabeth Anna Sophia, Newton House, Surbiton.

ELCUM, Hannah Jane, North London Collegiate School for Girls.

EVANS, Jane Kathleen H., Highbury and Islington High School.

EVERSFIELD, Sarah Linacre, Orme Girls' School, Newcastle-under-Lyne.

FIELD, Elizabeth, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

FRIPP, Edith J. Spencer, North London Collegiate School for Girls.

FROST, Beatrice Mary, private study and tuition.

GOLDSCHILD, Marguerite Desiree, North London Collegiate School for Girls.

GRANT, Julia Mary, School for Girls, St. Andrew's.

HARRADEN, Beatrice, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

HAWKINS, Helen Amy, Walton House, Harborne, and North London Collegiate School.

- HEALEY, Elizabeth, Clapham Middle School for Girls.  
HUDSON-COX, Frances Marion, North London Collegiate School for Girls.  
KILGOUR, Laura Frances, Ladies' College, Cheltenham, &c.  
KLEIN, Adelaide, Queen's College, Harley Street.  
LANGE, Dagmar Georgina, North London Collegiate School.  
LAWRENCE, Reina Emily, St. John's Wood High School and University College.  
MACKLIN, Helen Eliza, Bedford College and private tuition.  
MICHAEL, Elizabeth MacLellan, Highbury and Islington High School.  
MURCHISON, Effie Constance, Church of England High School, &c  
MUSPRATT, Julia Frances, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.  
OAKSOTT, Elizabeth Hannah, Chelsea High School and private study.  
PAGAN, Jessie Hair, Baxter House, Cupar, and St. Andrew's School.  
POLE, Cecilia Marion, Bedford College.  
POOLE, Elizabeth Gertrude, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.  
RAISIN, Adelaide Jane, Camden School and North London Collegiate School.  
RENDALL, Mary Alice, Notting Hill High School, &c.  
REYNOLDS, Sarah, Ipswich High School.  
RICHMOND, Elizabeth, Notting Hill High School.  
RICKETT, Clara, Bedford College.  
SHUTE, Georgina Bent,       "       "  
SMITH, Edith, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.  
SMITH, Lucy Matilda,       "       "  
SPENCER, Emily, North London Collegiate School.  
STEPHEN, Helen Margaret, Notting Hill High School and Cheltenham.  
STEWART, Annie Amelia, University College and private tuition.  
SYKES, Helen Mary, Forest House, Woodford and Cheltenham.  
TOTTENHAM, Martha G. Loftus, Queen's College, Harley Street.  
VAILE, Mary Agnes, Blackheath College and private study.  
WADSWORTH, Grace Morell, Clergy Daughters' School and University College, Bristol.  
WATKINS, Frances Mary, Ipswich High School.  
WILKINS, Alice Marion, Ladies' College, Cheltenham.  
WOODWARD, Bertha Anne,       "       "       "

SECOND DIVISION—

- BREEZE, Gabrielle Ruth Slater, Highbury and Islington High School.  
HIBBERT, Fanny Emma, Wyggeston Girls' School, Leicester.  
JAMES, Emily Lilian, Bedford College.  
ROBINSON, Margaret, North London Collegiate School.  
SHARPE, Ida Agnes, Queen's College, Harley Street.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Two students in the ladies' division of the Crystal Palace School of Art, Science, and Literature, Miss Mabel Francis and Miss Edith War-

ington, have obtained the Vice-Chancellor's certificate of the University of Cambridge for having successfully pursued a course of study approved by the Syndicate. This course represents three years of University study under Professors appointed by the University in the Crystal Palace School, such work being vouched by the gaining of subsidiary subjects taken at this teaching centre of the University. The Vice-Chancellor's certificate therefore testifies to mental training by the University method as well as to definite scholastic acquirement.

**TRAINING COLLEGE FOR TEACHERS IN MIDDLE AND HIGHER SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS, BISHOPSGATE.**—The session 1880-81, closed on June 30th, when a large gathering of friends and students of the College was held in the great hall attached to the schools. The Cambridge Teachers' Examination was held the same week, and the greater number of candidates at the London Centre were students of the College. There has been a great demand for teachers from the College this year. All the outgoing students have met with appointments with the exception of one or two, who prefer waiting to meet with special conditions. The next session will begin September 14th. The Clothworkers' Company have again offered a Scholarship of £15 to be held for one year in the College.

**KING'S COLLEGE.**—The Clothworkers' Company have voted £500 in aid of the fund of £25,000 required in connection with the new branch of King's College at Kensington, for the higher education of girls and women. The same munificent Company has also again sent a donation of twenty guineas to the Women's Education Union, and have repeated the offer of a Scholarship for £15 to be held in the Training College, for teachers in middle and higher schools for girls in Bishopsgate.

**OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.—THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN.**

OXFORD, July 25.

The new secretary to the Oxford Local Examinations Delegacy (Mr. G. E. Baker, M.A., late Fellow of Magdalen College) has just issued the names of those ladies who obtained certificates at the

recent examinations. There were originally 61 candidates, of whom 39 passed and five withdrew, the remaining 17 having failed to satisfy the examiners. The following were successful: Second Examination—Honours—Class 1.—Maude Mary Thompson, Somerville Hall, Oxford (French and German). Class 2.—Evelyn Anstruther, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford (English); Helen Maria Brailey, Somerville Hall, Oxford (French and German); Violet Wild, Somerville Hall, Oxford (French and German); Margaret Elizabeth Roberts, Somerville Hall, Oxford (Modern History); and Edith Anne Pearson, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford (Philosophy). Class 3.—Helen E. Baynes, Hampstead (English); Elizabeth Fox Bruce, Oxford (English); Isabel Bruce, Oxford (English); Lilla Elizabeth Haigh, Somerville Hall, Oxford (Modern History); Amy Sheppard, Tipton; Sarah Harriet Phillips Cooper, Ladies' College, Cheltenham; Frances Mary Lefroy, Littlehampton; Florence Clara Adelaide Lenthall, High School, Rhyl; Elizabeth Sumner, Mary Alice Sumner, Ladies' College, Cheltenham; Marian Lilian Bickersteth, Watford; Rhoda Ratcliff, Camberwell; Mary Bonner, Oxford; Isabella Turnbull Sturrock Don, Invereighty, Forfar; Frances Gwyther, Somerville Hall, Oxford; Laura Fanny Jones, Lilian Lee, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford; Florence Elizabeth Mary Macaulay, Jane Sharp, Jane Beatrice Ward, and Mary Watson, Somerville Hall, Oxford; Ethel Margaret Williams, Drayton, Wallingford; Edith Brindle, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea; Emma Jane Topple, Rochester; Mary White Dixon, Burley Hall, Reading; and Josephine Bourdillon, Taunton.—Second Examination—Pass.—Alice Mary Andrew's, Ladies' College, Cheltenham; Nora Green, Maidstone; Mary Spencer Rhys, Ladies' College, Cheltenham; Mary Elizabeth Verrall, Brighton; Kate Vipian, Belmont House, Leicester; Georgina Haliburton Nicholson, and Anna Letitia Warren, Somerville Hall, Oxford. In connection with the results, some useful tables are issued showing the subjects in which each candidate satisfied the examiners.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE AND THE BOARD SCHOOLS.—A very interesting gathering was held of Board School girls for the performance of Swedish exercises at the Beethoven Street School, Queen's Park Estate, the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, being present, and being attended by Lady S. Macnamara and Captain Collins. The other spectators, most of whom attended in response to a special invitation from Mrs. Westlake and Miss Davenport Hill, included Mr. Freeman (vice-chairman), Dr. Gladstone, Mr. Mark Wilks, and other members of the School Board; Mr. C. H. Croad (the clerk of the Board), and Mr. E. R. Robson (the architect). There were also present: Lady Stanley of Alderley, Mrs. Garrett Anderson, Lady Maude Stanley, Lord and Lady Brabazon, Mr. E.

Chadwick, &c. Mr. E. N. Buxton, chairman of the Board presided. The Beethoven School, which is near the Harrow Road, contains one of the largest Board School halls in London, and it was in this that the Swedish exercises took place, under the command of Miss Löfving, a lady who has introduced the use of them into the Board School system, mainly by instructing the teachers so as to enable them to instruct girls. The girls, about 100 in number, were collected from several schools situated in different parts of London. The Chairman in an introductory address to the Princess Louise, said the School Board felt as educationists that a healthy mind could not have full play without a healthy body, and had, therefore, paid attention to the physical training of the children in their schools. Mrs. Westlake, in explaining to her Royal Highness the Swedish exercises, remarked that they were carefully arranged for the development of the whole body, every muscle and every limb—the arms, the legs, the head, the neck, and the wrist, each exercise having its own definite purpose, and nothing being done for the sake of display; adding that the system had been in operation in the London Board Schools for about two years and a half, and that the effect both on the teachers and on the taught was most satisfactory. On the motion of Mrs. Garrett Anderson, seconded by Miss Davenport-Hill, a hearty vote of thanks was given to the Princess for her presence, and the chairman afterwards stated that her Royal Highness had asked him to say how much pleasure she had felt in seeing the evolutions which Miss Löfving had conducted, and that she was sure they must be very valuable to the children who had the benefit of them.

THE MIDDLE CLASS GIRLS' SCHOOL, HOUGHTON STREET, W.C.—On the 29th ult. the Lord Bishop of London gave away the prizes to the successful students. The most important were the governor's exhibitions, which were awarded to Miss Meads and Miss Hunt. The examiner's report was of a highly satisfactory character.

#### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY (SCOTLAND) ACT.

We publish below the text of this Act, which received

the Royal assent on July 18th. It will be seen that a great step has been made in advance over the former position of wives in Scotland. We owe deep gratitude to Mr. Anderson who so successfully carried forward the Bill through the House of Commons, and also to the Lord Advocate of Scotland, who presided over the Select Committee, as well as to the Lord Chancellor, who not only took charge of the Bill in the House of Lords, but succeeded in removing some very objectionable clauses which had been introduced in the course of Committee.

The retrospective clause in the Act by which all persons already married may declare by mutual deed that the wife's property shall be regulated according to the Act, deserves the attention of all our friends in Scotland, and we hope that many ladies will take the trouble to get such a deed registered, and to remind their friends of the desirability of doing so.

MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY (SCOTLAND) ACT,  
*Passed July 18, 1881.*

AN ACT FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW REGARDING PROPERTY OF  
MARRIED WOMEN IN SCOTLAND.

Whereas an Act was passed in the fortieth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, entitled the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act, and it is just and expedient to protect, to the further extent herein-after provided for, the property of married women in Scotland:

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. (1) Where a marriage is contracted after the passing of this Act, and the husband shall, at the time of the marriage, have his domicile in Scotland, the whole moveable or personal estate of the wife, whether acquired before or during the marriage, shall, by operation of law, be vested in the wife as her separate estate, and shall not be subject to the *jus mariti*.

(2) Any income of such estate shall be payable to the wife on her individual receipt or to her order, and to this extent the husband's right of administration shall be excluded; but the wife shall not be entitled to assign the prospective income thereof, or, unless with the husband's consent, to dispose of such estate.

(3) Except as herein-after provided, the wife's moveable estate shall not be subject to arrestment, or other diligence of the law, for the husband's debts, provided that the said estate (except such corporeal moveables as are usually possessed without a written or docu-



mentary title) is invested, placed, or secured in the name of the wife herself, or in such terms as shall clearly distinguish the same from the estate of the husband.

(4) Any money, or other estate of the wife, lent or entrusted to the husband, or immixed with his funds, shall be treated as assets of the husband's estate in bankruptcy, under reservation of the wife's claim to a dividend as a creditor for the value of such money or other estate after but not before the claims of the other creditors of the husband for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied.

(5) Nothing herein contained shall exclude or abridge the power of settlement by antenuptial contract of marriage.

2. Where a marriage is contracted after the passing of this Act, the rents and produce of heritable property in Scotland belonging to the wife shall no longer be subject to the *jus mariti* and right of administration of the husband.

3. In the case of marriages which have taken place before the passing of this Act:

(1) The provisions of this Act shall not apply where the husband shall have, before the passing thereof, by irrevocable deed or deeds, made a reasonable provision for his wife in the event of her surviving him.

(2) In other cases the provisions of this Act shall not apply.

Except that the *jus mariti* and right of administration shall be excluded to the extent respectively prescribed by the preceding sections from all estate, moveable or heritable, and income thereof, to which the wife may acquire right after the passing of the Act.

4. It shall be competent to all persons married before the passing of this Act to declare by mutual deed that the wife's whole estate, including such as may have previously come to the husband in right of his wife, shall be regulated by this Act, and upon such deed being registered in the register of deeds at Edinburgh or in the Sheriff Court register of the county or counties in which the parties reside, and being advertised in terms of the schedule in the Edinburgh Gazette and three times in two local newspapers circulating in such county or counties, the said estate shall be vested in her as hereinbefore provided, and subject to the provisions of this Act; provided that the said estate (except such corporeal moveables as are usually possessed without a written or documentary title) is invested, placed, or secured, in the name of the wife herself, or in such terms as shall clearly distinguish the same from the estate of the husband; but no such deed shall be of any effect as against any debt or obligation contracted by the husband prior to the date of the deed being so advertised and registered.

5. Where a wife is deserted by her husband, or is living apart from him with his consent, a judge of the Court of Session or Sheriff Court, on petition addressed to the court, may dispense with the husband's consent to any deed relating to her estate.

6. After the passing of this Act the husband of any woman who may die domiciled in Scotland shall take by operation of law the same share and interest in her moveable estate which is taken by a widow in her deceased husband's moveable estate, according to the law and

practice of Scotland, and subject always to the same rules of law in relation to the nature and amount of such share and interest, and the exclusion, discharge, or satisfaction thereof, as the case may be.

7. After the passing of this Act the children of any woman who may die domiciled in Scotland shall have the same right of legitim in regard to her moveable estate which they have according to the law and practice of Scotland in regard to the moveable estate of their deceased father, subject always to the same rules of law in relation to the character and extent of the said right, and to the exclusion, discharge, or satisfaction thereof, as the case may be.

8. This Act shall not affect any contracts made or to be made between married persons before or during marriage, or the law relating to such contracts, or the law relating to donations between married persons, or to a wife's non-liability to diligence against her person, or any of the rights of married women under the recited Act.

9. This Act may be cited as the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act, 1881.

#### SCHEDULE.

##### *Form of Notice prescribed by Section 4.*

Notice is hereby given that on the       day of       a deed by A.B. of C. [*designation*] and E.F. his wife has been registered in the Register of       in terms of the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act, 1881.

#### INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS.

The International Medical Congress commenced its sittings by a meeting in St. James's Hall on August 3rd. With that contemptuous gallantry towards women which is the distinctive feature of the English branch of the Medical Profession (though even in England there are some honourable exceptions), it was expressly ruled that ladies should only be invited by the Reception Committee to attend the social meetings, and rigidly excluded from the sections. We have no special objection to the exclusion of the general public, provided such exclusion be impartially carried out—though, even in this case, many of the sections treat of questions which would be deeply interesting to the non-professional hearer. Section XIII. in State Medicines, had subjects every one of which is of general importance, such as how to prevent the diffusion of various diseases from country to country, and Section VIII. which deals with mental diseases, discussed problems which greatly concern all philanthropists, such as new legal codes as part of asylum treatment, cottage and village treatment, the civil condition of the insane, and the question of special

asylums for insane criminals. If, however, the Profession claim their right to exclude the non-professional public, they have no right to carry this exclusion to the lawfully-graduated and diplomaed women doctors. This is the seventh International Congress; the preceding six have been held in foreign countries, and have admitted properly-qualified women to be present—acknowledging that they had equal knowledge of and similar interest in the subjects discussed, as properly qualified men. They had followed the same studies, passed the same examinations, and the sense of indecorum, therefore, which would intrude if the unqualified public were permitted to be listeners of the debates, could not in this case be felt. Nothing, as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales remarked in his opening address, so promotes the increase of scientific knowledge, as meeting in these congresses: the practitioners of each nation by attending the Congress would have opportunities of acquiring knowledge that would be of considerable value. Why, then, are women doctors to be excluded from these benefits, which it has been found by experience on the Continent, they can profitably enjoy.

A protest was signed by all the ladies who are registered medical practitioners, setting forward their claim to form part of the Congress, but it met with no response. A story is current in London that at the preliminary meeting of the Executive Committee, the majority were disposed to follow the precedent in this matter, but were dissuaded by Sir William Jenner, who declared that he was empowered to remove the name of the Queen as patron of the Congress if ladies were admitted. The story is not worthy of credence. It is likely enough that Sir William Jenner made a most emphatic protest against the admission of ladies, as he, happily without effect, strenuously opposed the admission of female students to the examinations of the London University; but it is absolutely incredible that he had any authority to use Her Majesty's name to influence the Congress.

The arbitrary manner in which this Congress has been summoned can do nothing to retard the continually

improving status of women doctors. It is probably the last occasion on which they will ever be excluded, and it will be remembered as a stupid protest against the advancing toleration and liberality of the age, the expiring effort of bigotry and high-handed trades-unionism.

**MEDICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN.**—The Court of the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers has sent another donation of twenty guineas to the London School of Medicine for Women, Henrietta Street, Brunswick Square, making in all £63 that have been granted to this institution by the Clothworkers' Company, which is helping forward technical education in so many different quarters.

#### DECEASED OFFICERS' WIVES.

Mr. COWEN recently asked the Secretary of State for War, if in previous warrants treating of pensions it was provided that a pension might be awarded to the widow of an officer who was twenty-five years younger than her late husband, should the officer have lived for seven years after the marriage; and would he in the new warrant provide that the wives of those officers who had married previous to the 1st of July, 1881, might be allowed the same advantages as they would have possessed under the old warrants.

Mr. CHILDERS answered that any officer's widow who had married him before the 1st of July, will in this respect retain any claim she might have had under former warrants.

#### PUNISHMENT FOR BRUTAL ASSAULTS.

On August 5th, in the House of Commons, Mr. MACFARLANE (H.R. Carlow) moved that the administration of the law, in cases of outrage upon the person, had long been a reproach to our criminal courts, that outrages and assaults of the most brutal character, especially upon married women, even when they caused a cruel death, were commonly punished less severely than small offences against property, and that the admission of the crime of drunkenness as an extenuation of other crimes was immoral, and acted as an incentive to persons about to commit outrages to wilfully deprive

themselves of the guidance of reason. He wished that the law allowed flogging, as he would like to see all these brutal ruffians who assaulted virtuous females well flogged.

Mr. Macfarlane is not the first person who has directed attention to the outrageous discrepancy between the amount of punishment given for gross personal violence and that inflicted for far more venial offences against property. No defence for such a system appears possible, but the Home Secretary has far too keen a sympathy for the dignity of the Magistracy to permit even this most guarded form of censure. His answer appears to us as cynical as it is involved. He regarded the motion as a grave one, as it was not an impeachment of particular cases, but a general impeachment of the courts of law. The persons implicated came from the same class as they did, and he could not regard the speech of the hon. member otherwise than as an impeachment of those who had to administer the law. Law reports in the newspapers were extremely incorrect, and in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred the popular feeling which was raised was not well founded. He was sure the House would not accept the severe condemnation of the judges and magistrates contained in the resolution of the hon. gentleman. He did not mean to say there were not cases in which he quite agreed with the hon. member, and in which he individually should have acted in a different manner; but it must be borne in mind that this was the great and insoluble difficulty in the administration of criminal law. There always must be inequality in sentences so long as the human mind varied, and he did not see, unless they secured uniformity in the temperament of the human mind, that they could get that uniformity of sentence which the hon. member desired. The House could not accept and endorse that general and severe condemnation of the magistrates of the country contained in this resolution. If this resolution were true, they must dismiss all the magistrates and judges. He did not know any other remedy.

Mr. MACFARLANE withdrew his motion.

#### SHOP HOURS REGULATION.

Earl STANHOPE has brought into the House of Lords a Bill to regulate the hours of labour in shops and warehouses. It sets forth as follows:—Whereas, by reason of the present labour in shops and warehouses for the sale of textile fabrics and articles of wearing apparel, many women and young persons are grievously injured in health: Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: 1. This Act may be cited as the Shop Hours Regulation Act, 1881. 2. On and after the 1st day of January, 1882, it shall not be lawful for any shop or warehouse for the sale of textile fabrics and articles of wearing apparel, where women and young persons are employed, to be open for more than ten hours in each day. 3. Women and young children shall have the same significance in the Act as in the Factory and workshops Act, 1878. 4. To meet the exigencies of the season trade, permission may be granted by the Secretary of State for the Home Department for an extension of time to any establishment making an application therefore, but such extension shall not exceed sixty days in each year, nor be for more than two hours in each of the said days, and the employers receiving permission for each extension must forward an intimation to the Home Office each night the extension is taken advantage of.

There is, of course, no fear that any mischievous legislation can pass this session with reference to women's work, but we must not forget to be vigilant deeming that the danger is over. Next year, these heedless "protectors of women" will bring in their Bill again, and with the kindest intention will throw another obstacle in the way of the employment of women as shop assistants. As a matter of course, if such a Bill were passed, any shop that wished to keep open for longer hours would revert to having men assistants only.

#### THE ELECTION OF GUARDIAN FOR BODDINGTON.

We quote the following from the *Women's Suffrage*

*Journal.* The case is likely to prove of great importance to the new movement for electing women as poor law guardians, as married women are by circumstances and training particularly well adapted to fill the office of guardian.

In the Boardroom of the Tewkesbury Union Workhouse, on July 16th, Mr. F. W. Longe, the Poor Law Inspector, at the instance of the Local Government Board, upon the petition of Mr. H. Arkell, of Boddington, held a Governmental inquiry into the election of Mrs. J. H. M'Ilquham, of Staverton House, as a Guardian for the parish of Boddington. At the election which took place in April last, Mrs. M'Ilquham received 48 votes, as against 27 given to her opponent, Mr. Arkell, who now claimed the seat. Immediately after the election, Mr. Arkell communicated with the Local Government Board, alleging informalities in connection with the election, and that authority, having taken time to consider the matter, instructed their Inspector to hold the inquiry. There were in all six grounds of complaint, viz.:—1. That Mr. J. H. M'Ilquham, who nominated his wife, was not properly qualified to do so, he not being upon the rate book, as a ratepayer, owner, or occupier of any property in the parish, as required by the statute. 2. That Henry Arkell, of Buckle's Court, though entitled to six votes, had no voting papers left at his house during the election. 3. and 4. That William Fowler, late of Boddington Manor, and Thomas Ballinger, of Boddington, were not permitted to use the franchise. 5. That Mr. M'Ilquham, who voted, was not legally entitled to do so. 6. That Mrs. M'Ilquham was not qualified to act as a Guardian by her disability as a married woman, and also by the fact that she did not reside in the Union. The sixth point was taken first.

Evidence was given by Mr. R. J. Ticehurst, of Cheltenham, showing that he was trustee under a will in which Mrs. M'Ilquham was interested. A property known as the Barrow Estate, in Boddington, containing 75½ acres, was settled upon her for her separate use, and in her absolute control. In 1879, Mrs. M'Ilquham, with his sanction, through the leaving of a tenant, took possession of the estate, and farmed it in her own right.

Mr. W. Oakey, the assistant-overseer of the parish, produced the rate book, wherein Mrs. M'Ilquham's name was entered for the property in question, both as owner and occupier. The rental was stated at £105, while a £25 rental was sufficient qualification for the office of Guardian.

A reference was made to the Acts of Parliament regulating Poor Law elections, and it was found that the Act only required that the candidate seeking election should have a property qualification in the parish. On the question of a married woman's disability for the office, Mr. Longe said he believed that this was the first instance on record in which a married lady had been elected, but there was no reason why Mrs. M'Ilquham should not lead the way.

Mrs. M'Ilquham, in reply to the Inspector, stated that she knew

of no instance of a married lady being elected for the office of Guardian, though she was acquainted with several married ladies who were members of School Boards.

The first point, the one on which the success of the petitioners chiefly rested, was then taken. This referred to the qualification of Mr. M'Ilquham, and the inquiry, which lasted three hours, was adjourned, Mr. Longe promising to submit his report to the Local Government Board as quickly as possible.

The decision of the Board is not likely to be made known for some time to come, but the question of the right of a married woman to be elected as a Poor Law Guardian seems now practically established.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES has accepted an invitation from the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours to become an honorable member of that body.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION, DUNDEE.—A munificent offer has recently been made by a lady, Miss Baxter, to devote a sum exceeding £100,000 to the establishment of a college which though not intended specially for technical education, is to embrace several subjects of technology, such as chemistry, engineering, &c.

WOMEN'S BENEFIT SOCIETIES.—The report of the Women's Protective and Provident League says that they have assisted in organising, during the past year, three new societies—the Dublin Tailoresses' Union, the Dublin Bookfolders' Union, and the Liverpool Tailoresses' Association. The President and Executive Council of the Amalgamated Society of Tailors are ready to assist them in forming Societies of Tailoresses in any large centre of trade.

THE Countess of Scarborough has established a school of cookery at Lumley Castle, and the wife of the Vicar, who has passed through a cooking course at South Kensington, gives the instruction. Mr. Buckmaster gave a lecture, Dr. Heath presided, and the school girls cooked the illustrative dishes.

SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS, DUBLIN.—The question of the education of women will have great prominence at the next Social Science Congress. Two of the subjects for discussion are, "In what way may intermediate education be best promoted under the Act of 1878?" and "How may the higher education of women be most efficiently advanced in Ireland?"



A REVOLUTIONARY congress was held on the 17th of July in the Cleveland Hall, London, comprising delegates from various parts of Europe and the United States, representing extreme Democratic opinions. This meeting would have been no way remarkable, but that it was the first time Louise Michel, whose sufferings as a condemned Communist have rendered her so famous in Paris and elsewhere, ever appeared and spoke in England. She is described as dressed in deep black, and was accompanied by an aged woman, her mother. She is a woman of middle height, about fifty years old, sunburnt as a labouring woman in the fields, and her rising was the signal for loud shouts from the section of French visitors. Her speech was fluent, but there was little about it on this occasion of the fiery eloquence for which she is celebrated. Hurricanes of applause, however, followed her address.

MRS. LESLIE has acquired the sole management of her deceased husband's *Illustrated Paper*. It is noteworthy, the *Athenæum* remarks, that this journal, as well as the *Illustrated London News*, should be conducted by widows.

LONG STANDING.—The Ladies' Sanitary Association has added to its popular tracts one entitled "About some Girls." It is particularly devoted to the physical trials which are so thoughtlessly inflicted on shop-girls by the long hours they are compelled to keep on their feet while in discharge of their duties.

THE WOOLLEN TRADE.—A number of ladies of high standing have set on foot a movement for the encouragement of the woollen trade for the benefit of the manufacturers of Bradford and other great towns of similar industries. If they are numerous enough to set the fashion of wearing woollen goods, they may succeed in their endeavour, otherwise the days of artificial protection of trade are over.

CHURCH COUNCILS.—Mr. Commissioner Kerr, at a gathering in connection with St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Regent's Park, "hoped ladies would be allowed a place in Church Councils." He founded this hope on his experience of the good that had resulted from ladies being chosen as guardians of the poor.

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of the Girls' Orphan Home, Tottenham, took place on July 30th, in a large tent erected in the grounds in rear of the building, Mr. S. Morley, M.P., occupying the chair. The report, which was read by Dr. Laseron, honorary director, after narrating the history of the institution, which traces its origin to a ragged school formed in 1856, and favourably reported upon by Mr. Matthew Arnold, and thus has had a career extending over a quarter of a century, stated that the Orphan Home has sheltered up to the present time no less than 621 Girls, of whom 575 have been sent out into the world, the largest number of these being servants, some filling situations in business, some devoting themselves to mission work, and some being governesses, while 46 girls are at this moment sheltered in the home. After the home had existed for eleven years, there sprang up from it the Deaconesses' Institution and Training Hospital, situated at South Tottenham, which now counts 36 sisters, and, as recently mentioned in the *Daily News*, has stations at Sunderland, Cork, and Dublin, the number of patients who have derived benefit from the work being 96,162, so that the total of those who have benefitted during twenty-five years from the agencies employed is 99,783. The amount received from the first for the establishment and maintenance of the Girls' Home is £32,726, and the total for the kindred Deaconesses Institution £38,000, making an aggregate of £70,726; and as regards the former an earnest appeal was made by the committee in the report for a special contribution of £500 to clear off pressing liabilities or demands.

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

M<sup>DLLE</sup>. ROSA BONHEUR has nearly finished a large picture of a lion and cubs, entitled *En Famille*, or the Lion at Home, which will next spring be exhibited, with another work by her, at Mr. Lefevre's gallery.

## ITALY.

The directress of the elementary female school and infant asylums of Fano, Signora Angiolina Bianchini has received a letter of thanks from the Syndic of Rome, and a gold medal for the part she took as secretary at the eleventh jury at the Educational Exhibition.

SIGNORINA GIULIA CAVALLARI has passed the third year's examinations in the Bologna University by a unanimous vote. Next year she will receive her diploma as Doctor of Letters.—*Donna*.

ON June 27th two young ladies, Evangelina Bottero, of Acqui, and Carolina Magistrelli, of Mantua, who have been studying at the Roman University since 1877, together with students of the male sex, took degrees of doctor of natural science.

## SPAIN.

The Spanish papers are still occupied with the subject of "Women Bachelors and Doctors. The *Epoca* has the following article upon it :—

"The problem about the higher education of women brings with it several other problems.

"Is it possible, we Spaniards say, that our women may be able to matriculate in Institutes and Universities, and be Bachelors and Doctors? To utter this proposition and laugh, is one and the same thing. We can't imagine the Spanish woman except as an ignorant and passionate bride, as a faithful, self-sacrificing wife, and as a mother, the model of all mothers.

"In comparison with the women of other countries, they are more ignorant, but more womanly than the women almost of any other country.

"What they want in science they have over much in heart. Their mothers occupy themselves more in teaching them how to love, than in teaching them geography. Hence the result is that they don't always know which is the country of the Kronmirs, but they seldom waver in sacrificing themselves for the man they love. This is quite natural. For a St. Teresa of Jesus, or a Beatrice de Galindo, we have had a million of Isabels of Segura.

"There are professions, trades, and callings which women could discharge as well as men; such as clerks in shops and stores, book-binders, type-setters, telegraphists, railway employes, ticket-sellers, and copying clerks. They could cultivate some branches of medicine, principally that referring to women's and children's diseases; they could act as book-keepers in business houses; they could, in short, work if they needed it.

"In speaking of educating women better people often go astray. To obtain for women who need it, means for earning their bread, is not to deprive the sex of its charms. A woman could very well be a telegraphist, and at the same time a good mother, just as a woman may now be a good mother and a seamstress. Is it more difficult to send telegrams than to stitch or to sew in a machine? To judge of this question fairly, it is convenient to distinguish the different classes into which society is divided—classes are the modern castes of civilization.

"An aristocrat, a millionaire, a banker, a well-to-do man will not

think for a moment of giving his daughter a trade or a profession. The daughters of such men have the security of marrying, and even if they do not marry they reckon on an inheritance to live upon. The women of the middle classes are those who most need being educated—for example, the daughters of employés with little pay, the daughters of merchants with but little business, and the daughters of military men of inferior rank. They have enjoyed at home a certain degree of comfort. They have probably had friends richer than themselves. They have formed part, at least for a time of the society which amuses itself. They are in fact young ladies.

"If they marry every thing goes well; matrimony for women is a *status*. But if they are plain besides being poor, or if they have some physical or moral defect; or if being handsome they do not marry, it is in work alone that they can find some consolation.

"To give to such women means of living in harmony with their education, is a sure way of freeing them from the snares of vice. It is from this class that prostitution mostly gets its prey. And since the victims of this vice drive about grandly every evening in the 'Ritiro,' are present at first representations, and dress expensively, no wonder their increase is so great. For that reason it must be fought against with more energy.

"But the one who most needs work for living is the daughter of the people. With few exceptions, she has worked, works, and will always work. She has the feeling of having been born for nothing else. At twelve years old she is sent to the work-shop. When she knows how to stitch and hem, she earns three "reales" (or seven-pence) daily. After that she earns even two pesetas (one shilling and eightpence). In the trade, this is being a good work-woman. At the door of the workshop all kinds of temptations await her. We will not repeat the story of the seduced work-woman. By dint of being common, it has become old-fashioned . . . if such a sad and sorrowful story can become old-fashioned. Sewing produces very little. Vice produces much more with less trouble. These poor work-girls are the daily food of this great monster which always longs for victims.

"Is it not useful, besides being moral, to obtain for this class of women, work in shops, printing offices, theatres, post and telegraph offices? Even in this kind of work temptations will not be wanting, but they will have the hope of earning more, and work will compete with vice. This would be something.

"People protest against the promiscuity of the sexes which there will naturally be on the day when women will be admitted to institutes, universities, workshops, and offices.

"According to this theory, the danger must be greater when hands are joined, and breaths confused in the intimacy of the aristocratic waltz or popular mazurka, and when a man and woman speak alone at the window at an advanced hour of the night. If it was usual to see women in institutes, workshops, and offices, men would get accustomed to it. In Paris some girls go to the School of Medicine, and occupy the first benches, not by order of the professors, but from the civility of the students, who have this gallantry for their feminine companions. The weakness of women is not always a good

argument against their intelligence. . . . They are often weak because it is convenient for them to be so. Women are never so strong as when they arm themselves with their weakness.

"Women doctors, women professors of history and geography, would only teach women and boys. Have we not already governesses and lady teachers of French and music?"

"Women would in many cases be better physicians than men. In speaking about this subject the French writer Ignotus says: 'When we were young who was the best doctor, our father or our mother? Our mother. The sick boy,' he continues, 'is silent, and will not answer the doctor's questions. In order to cure him it is necessary to make him speak, and women, much better than men, know how to make children speak. Women when ill are sometimes exceedingly modest. Bernardin de St. Pierre's Virginia preferred dying rather than undressing.'

"This author is right. There are some Virginias, and even if it were only for them, it would be well to have lady doctors. Women should be allowed to drink a little at the fountain of knowledge. We don't think this will make them lose their charms, for at the same time that they cultivate their intelligence they can continue to cultivate their heart. We think, on the contrary, that they will bring to our material times a little more poetry."

#### DENMARK.

THE Danish journals announce the death, on the 10th of July, of the well-known Madame Elizabeth Jerichau, or including her husband's and her own names, Jerichau-Baumann, who married Thorwaldsen's pupil, M. Jerichau, a Danish sculptor of note and professor in the Royal Academy, Copenhagen. Madame Jerichau was born, it is said, in Copenhagen, in 1825, and in due time studied in the Academy at Dusseldorf. Traces of the influence of that school were always distinct in the lady's painting, which was careful, well-studied, bright in its illumination, solid in the lights and shadows, and yet rather dry and heavy in touch. Her works are animated in design, pathetic in conception, and just in expression. Her subjects were generally serious, if not religious, and they deserve a good place among the graver illustrations of modern *genre*. She lived a long time with her husband in Rome, but nevertheless adhered to the style, and even the subjects, of the Dusseldorf school. In 1861, Madame Jerichau's contribution to the *Salon* of Paris won an honourable mention. She was a frequent exhibitor at the Royal Academy since 1858. In 1862, the International Exhibition contained six of her paintings, of which "Courting in Amack," "The Stocking Mender," and "Poor Children," sleeping in each other's arms, attracted much attention. We remember several of her productions in the minor London galleries, such as the French Gallery, Pall Mall. In the *Exposition Universelle*, Paris, 1867, were seven of her pictures. She painted "Reading the Bible," for Napoleon III. Her better-known works include "A Mother's Joys," "A Danish Sailor drying his Nets," "The Wounded Soldier," "A Young Girl Praying," "A Scene on the Nile," and "Egyptian Water-Carriers."—*Athenæum*.

AMERICA.

CO-EDUCATION.—There are 153 colleges which admit women to their course of study. The following are a few—University of Michigan, Olivet College, University of Minnesota, Carleton College, Hillsdale College, Adrian College, Ohio Wesleyan University, Oberlin College, University of Wooster, Northwestern University, Knox College, Lombard University, Lake Forest University, Lincoln University, Monmouth College, Northwestern College, Ewing College, Carthage College, Northwestern College, Wheaton College, Illinois Wesleyan University, Blackburn University, Galesville University, University of Wisconsin, Ripon College, Upper Iowa University, Iowa College, Simpson Centenary College, Tabor College, Humboldt College, State University of Iowa, Iowa Wesleyan University, Cornell College, Oskaloosa College, Indiana University, Asbury University, Butler University, Earlham College, University of Notre Dame du Lac, University of Nebraska, University of Kansas, Boston University, Cornell University, Swarthmore University, Wesleyan University, Conn., Alleghany College, and Delaware College; in the South, Bethel College, Atlanta University, Claflin University, Rutherford College, Central Tennessee College; and in the far West, California College. Reports from a majority of these agree that the average standing of women is fully equal to that of the young men.

MRS. GARFIELD.—At a time when England has thrilled with sympathy for the family of the President of the United States in their deep anxiety for his recovery from the cowardly attempt at assassination, this description of his mother's strength of mind and energy, in the *Woman's Journal*, will be interesting: "Mrs. Garfield is the first mother of a President who has ever seen her son's inauguration. Other mothers, possibly, may have been alive to hear the news, but this eighty-year-old dame had more than a right to be at the Capitol on that day. She had 'blazed out,' as woodmen say, the road to it from the log cabin in Cuyahoga county. Such a history of motherly courage and patience and faith is not rare, to be sure, in any farm house, but there was something more than this. What the Ohio law is as respects the widow's estate and the distribution of even a small farm property does not appear. In Pennsylvania, when a farmer dies without a will, the intestate law opens the way to breaking up the home, the little property is sold out, and the children parcelled out among administrators if the mother has not money enough to keep them with her. Many an industrious farmer woman who could get along if she were left to decide, must be turned out of the Pennsylvania farm when her husband dies, and sees it parcelled out, so that her "thirds" are often to her the loss of her all. It was not so in the Orange township farm house. The father of Garfield died a young man, leaving a small farm, encumbered with debt, in the woods, with twenty cleared acres around it. What was remarkable in Eliza Garfield at that day was her strong will. She put aside the well meant but mistaken advice of friends, and determined that neither the house should be sold nor her children scattered. With four children, one a slip of a boy, and the future President a baby, she worked the poor farm so that it yielded a living. At night she taught her boys. Probably it

was well for the young Garfield boys they were not deluged with "children's books." The bookshelf held but few, but how those histories and scanty biographies must have sunk in and taken root in the long, quiet winter evenings! The children of the rich do not have such advantages as the lonely farm house and the energy and brains of that little widow woman gave her sons. It was fifty years ago when the widow Garfield started the experiment of carrying on the Orange farm, and bringing up her son to wholesome independence. At the end of the half century he carries her to the White House, the first mother of a President who ever lived there. It is something to be proud of, not that the farms of the West and the East rear such women, for that we all know, but that one of them has lived to see the reward of her woodchopping and planting, her saving and her teaching, of her courage, in short.

MISS GEORGIE S. RICHARDS, of Denver, Colorado, who has been journal clerk of the district court for the past eighteen months, has been recently appointed additional deputy clerk of the court. This is the first instance in which a lady has occupied such a position—which is an important one—and the appointment is creditable to Mr. Sparnick, the clerk, to whom she owes the appointment, as it demonstrates his willingness to allow women an equal chance with men, when their qualifications and experience justify such advancement. Of Miss Richards' appointment the clerk said: "It is done as a just recognition of her eminent qualifications, her careful industry, and her long experience in this line of clerical work, she having proven her thorough efficiency by a year and a half's satisfactory service as journal clerk." The *Denver Times* says: "Miss Richards is a lady of fine cultivation and education, and her promotion will give equal satisfaction to the bar and the public."

MISS M. M. GILLET, a native of Wisconsin, has been appointed by the President a notary public for the district of Columbia. This is the first instance that a woman has received such an appointment from the President.

#### BURMAH.

In the Excise Report upon the Opium Trade, printed a few weeks ago, occurs the following testimony to the good influence exercised by the women:—

"This reduction in the number of opium shops (by two-thirds of the licenses being refused) is made because the officers and the people, so far as can be ascertained, are unanimous that the multiplication of opium shops has recently led to a great and constantly growing increase in the number of opium smokers. The increase of the habit has manifested itself chiefly among young men and men under middle age. The habit is much reprobated by the elders and all respectable sections of the Burman community, especially so, it is said, by the women, who form a most important and influential section of Burman society. The large reduction of shops will, it is apprehended, be followed by some increase in smuggling; but efforts will be made to repress such operations; and at any rate, the reduction of the number of shops will prevent the misuse of the drug spreading among the young men, and reaching even to the young women and children."

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ART. I.—THE LAW OF SCOTLAND WITH REGARD TO THE PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

UNTIL a very few years ago, the effect of marriage upon a woman's property was, according to the law of Scotland, to transfer all her personal, or as it is called in Scotland, her moveable estate, unless protected by a marriage contract, or by some special disposition, to her husband. All her worldly possessions, except heritable, that is, landed or real property, passed from her to her husband, by the fact of marriage, in virtue of what is technically called his *jus mariti*. This legal right really involved the transfer of the right of property from the wife to the husband. All the personal estate which she had when she married, all that came to her during the marriage, including all that she could herself earn, became his, to use for their mutual benefit, or to abuse and squander at his own good pleasure, during his life-time.

With regard to the heritable or real estate, the effect of the *jus mariti* was to give to the husband the rents accruing from the estate during the marriage, though the body or corpus of it remained with the wife. The rents received from the estate during the marriage became the property of the husband, just as did the personal estate of the wife, being paid to him



upon his own receipt, as though they were the rents of his own estate.

Another right which the husband acquired by marriage is generally known as the right of administration. According to the present Lord Advocate, Mr. J. B. Balfour, when giving evidence last Session before the Select Committee on the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Bill, "the precise legal character of that right may be somewhat doubtful, but popularly stated, it is a right of management, a right which makes the husband's consent indispensable to the wife dealing with those estates or items of property, which do not pass to the husband by force of the legal assignation of marriage. For example, it would be essential that his consent should be given to the wife alienating or burdening her heritable estate, or if his *jus mariti* was excluded from personal estate, so that it did not pass to him in point of property, the right of administration would make the consent of the husband essential to her dealing with the corpus or capital."

The husband's consent would, therefore, be necessary to any charging or dealing in any way with the wife's real property, and also to any deed relating to such personal property as had been reserved to her under her marriage contract.

But whilst no part of the husband's property became the wife's, by or during marriage, the laws of Scotland would not permit a husband who died possessed of property to leave wife and children penniless. In the case of a surviving widow and children, the widow was held entitled to one-third, and the children to another third, of the husband's personal property, he having power to dispose by will of the remaining third only. In the case of a widow and no children, the widow took one-half, and the other half only was at the husband's disposal. The widow's right was called, in legal phrase, *jus relictu*, and that of the children *legitim*.

Upon the death of the wife, the husband, by "right of courtesy," took the whole of the rents of his wife's heritable estate for his own life, but this right has been said to have been given to him rather as father of the heir, than as the survivor of the married pair, since, before it

could arise, it was essential that a living child, capable of inheriting, should have been born of the marriage. Whether this child lived, or died after it had once given proof of life, was immaterial to the father's right. If the child survived, its rights as heir were postponed to the life-interest of its father in the estate; if it predeceased him, the "right of courtesy" still gave him his life-interest as against the next heir.

The widow of a man possessed of heritable property, had the right of *terce*, which gave her, for her life, *one-third* of the rents of her deceased husband's landed estate. Under the old law of Scotland, this right did not accrue to the widow unless the marriage had subsisted for a year and a day, or a living child had been born of the marriage, but by the 18 Vict., c. 23, s. 27, this was abolished, so that the widow's right to her *terce* is now unconditional.

Prior to this Act of 1855, moreover, a division of property took place on the death of the wife, her heirs, however remote, being entitled to claim one-half of the personal property possessed by the husband at the time of his wife's death. This fact led some writers to speak of the law of Scotland as establishing a community of goods between husband and wife, but as this was the only legal effect of the alleged *communio bonorum*, and this one effect was set aside by Statute, in 1855, the best legal authorities seem agreed that the theory of community of goods is a mere expression, to which there is no corresponding reality. Neither desertion by the husband, nor divorce from him, restored the rights of the wife to her own property, since, according to Lord Fraser (p. 25 of evidence), in the case of a decree of divorce, "the wife loses her right to *terce* and *jus relictu*, and forfeits all right given to her under her marriage contract, if she be the guilty party, and the Courts have no power, however hard it may be, to impose upon the husband as a condition of his getting his wife's property, or his getting all the benefits conferred upon him as if she were dead, to put aside a little annuity for her."

In a singular case referred to by the present Lord Advocate, in his evidence before the Select Committee,

a husband and wife had been divorced for adultery, by simultaneous decree, each being guilty, the Court held that the whole personal estate belonged to the husband.

The husband's "right of courtesy," the wife's right of *terce* and *jus relictu*, and the children's right of *legitim*, though they are held incapable of being affected by the act of either husband or wife after marriage, may be set aside by contracts made before marriage, and according to Lord Fraser, it was the desire on the part of the husband and father to free himself from these restrictions upon his powers of bequest that led to the extensive prevalence of contracts of marriage in Scotland, for "the husband and father had very limited powers over the fortune which his industry had amassed. If he had a wife and children, he would only bequeath a third of his estate. He could not defeat the wife's *jus relictu*, or the *legitim* of children; nor the wife's *terce*, nor the demand of her representatives for a half of his means upon his wife's pre-decease. No wonder, therefore, that marriage contracts were common in Scotland. A husband thus tied and throttled by the common law required freedom. He could only get this by barring all these restrictions in an antenuptial contract. He thus obtained the independence and right to deal with his means, which the common law of England gave to Englishmen without marriage contracts. It was to free the husband, and not to protect the wife, that marriage contracts were so much resorted to in Scotland."

But Mr. Balfour says of marriage contracts (p. 12): "As regards the spouses, the main object is to prevent the wife's property going to the husband, and to prevent her from having what would be in practice an unreasonably large claim upon his means if he died leaving much personalty."

In any event, the existence of contracts superseding the ordinary law, must have prepared the way for the alteration of the law itself.

The first important alteration made in favour of wives was effected by those parts of the Conjugal Rights Act of 1861, which enabled a wife who had been deserted

to obtain protection for property acquired or earned by her after the desertion, and gave her a right, whilst living with her husband, to claim some provision for herself out of property coming to her during the marriage by inheritance, gift, or otherwise, provided the creditors of the husband had not attached it, or the husband himself "reduced it into possession."

In 1874, Mr. Anderson, M.P. for Glasgow, succeeded in passing the Conjugal Rights Amendment Act, which extended to the Sheriff Courts the power, hitherto confined to the Court of Session, of granting protection orders to deserted wives, and thus enabled poor women to take advantage of the Local Courts, instead of instituting costly proceedings in Edinburgh.

In 1877, Mr. Anderson renewed his exertions for the improvement of the legal position of Scotch wives by the introduction of the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Bill, and in that year succeeded in carrying that portion of his measure which gave to Scotch wives the full ownership and control of their earnings. His Act provides that "The *jus mariti* and right of administration of the husband shall be excluded from the wages and earnings of any married woman, acquired or gained by her after the commencement of this Act, in any employment, occupation, or trade, in which she is engaged, or in any business which she carries on under her own name, and shall also be excluded from any money or property acquired by her after the commencement of this Act, through the exercise of any literary, artistic, or scientific skill, and such wages, earnings, money, or property, and all investments thereof, shall be deemed to be settled to her sole and separate use, and her receipt shall be a good discharge for such wages, earnings, money, or property, and instruments thereof." It will be observed that whilst a wife's earnings are to be deemed to be settled to her separate use, so that she can dispose of them by will, without her husband's consent, and free from any legal claims of husband and children, as a wife can whose personalty is settled upon her by marriage contract, the husband's right of administration is also excluded, so that his consent is not needful to her disposal of them in any way she may

please, whilst still living, the provisions of the Act in this respect being wider than those of the ordinary marriage contract.

The Act, moreover, relieved every husband married after it came into operation from any liability for debts contracted by his wife before her marriage, further than to the "value of any property which he shall have received from, through, or in right of, his wife, at, or before, or subsequent to the marriage."

In 1878, Mr. Anderson again introduced a Married Women's Property (Scotland) Bill, but neither in that Session, nor in 1879, nor in either of the Sessions of 1880, was he able to overcome the opposing difficulties, and to bring his efforts to any practical issue.

Meanwhile, in the second Session of 1880, the first of the new Parliament, Mr. William Holms, M.P. for Paisley, succeeded in passing into law a short measure, the Married Women's Policies of Assurance (Scotland) Act, 1880, the important provisions of which are substantially these:—1. That married women may effect policies of assurance for their separate use, *free of the jus mariti and right of administration of their husbands, and assignable without their consent*; and 2. that an assurance may be effected by a husband for his wife, and if it appears upon the face of the policy that it has been effected as a provision for her, he is in effect a trustee for her, and it is safe from his creditors.

Upon the meeting of Parliament last Session, Mr. Anderson at once re-introduced the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Bill, and succeeded in carrying the second reading on the 13th of January, when it was ordered to be committed to a Select Committee.

The Committee was not nominated till the 11th of February, and when complete included the following gentlemen (Scotch members):—The then Lord Advocate (the Right Hon. John M'Laren), Mr. Anderson, Mr. Armitstead, Mr. James Campbell, Mr. Cochrane Patrick, Mr. Dalrymple, Mr. Orr-Ewing, Sir Alexander Gordon, Sir John Hay, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Mr. M'Lagan, Mr. Peddie, Mr. Webster, Sir David Wedderburn, and Mr. Williamson, and of English members Mr. Staveley Hill, Mr. Northcote, Mr. Francis Howell, and Mr. Solicitor

General for England (Sir F. Herschell). The then Lord Advocate was chairman of the Committee, and the first witness examined was the then Solicitor-General for Scotland (the present Lord Advocate, the Right Hon. J. B. Balfour). The other witnesses examined were Lord Fraser, a Judge in the Court of Session, Mr. A. S. Kinnear, Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, Dr. Anderson Kirkwood, formerly Professor of Conveyancing in the University of Glasgow, and Mr. James Samond, President of the Society of Solicitors in the Supreme Courts of Scotland, all able lawyers, well-acquainted with the existing state of the law, and admirably well-fitted to expound its operation as it affects the legal profession, and the general public, but both as men and as lawyers, less well-fitted to understand where it is felt by women themselves to be specially oppressive.

An almost comical illustration of this incapacity was given by Lord Fraser, where, when under examination before the Committee, he naively says: "For my own part, I do not see the necessity for this legislation. I think that the protection which has been thrown around married women already under the Conjugal Rights Act is sufficient. If the husband deserts her, she can get protection; if she succeeds to property, then she may apply to the Court, and have the whole of it, if it be small, or a sufficient quantity of it set aside as a provision for her, *and why she should be allowed to have money in her pocket to deal with as she thinks fit, I cannot understand.*"

Possibly Lord Fraser might have "understood" the matter a little better, had he, being a rational human being, of full age and capacity, using at pleasure, and disposing at will, of his own property, with money always in his pocket to deal with as he thought fit, been liable suddenly to lose all these rights, to have his property taken from him, and himself reduced to a state of dependence on the bounty of that other to whom his property had been transferred, and all this for the offence of being so unreasonable and unwise as to enter into that estate which law, religion, and social custom agree in representing as "honourable."

E. C. W. ELMY.

(*To be continued.*)

ART. II.—MISS ROBINSON'S WORK AMONG  
SOLDIERS.

A LITTLE pamphlet has been lately issued which calls our attention again to the work which Miss Robinson has for twenty years personally carried on for the benefit of soldiers and sailors and their families. Every regiment of our army and every ship of our fleet passes in turn through Portsmouth, and here too are sent the sick and wounded of both army and navy as well as the families, widows, and orphans of the soldiers. Vice of all kinds, drunkenness and debauchery, were rampant in Portsmouth when this brave Christian lady first began her work in 1862. The army authorities were utterly powerless to check this state of things, if they ever tried to do so. A regiment on landing from foreign service will seldom have less than £3,000, sometimes much more, and in a few weeks most of this money is spent in the town which offers temptations too powerful for the men, unassisted, to resist. "She described one short street in the town in which there are no fewer than thirteen liquor shops, several being in a row without any intervening houses. She told us of other places, also dens of iniquity, where other allurements to catch the men are added to those of drink. And while the temptations and snares so abounded, there was not in all Portsmouth a single house to which a soldier desiring to maintain his self-respect and to keep himself sober, could go for quiet reading or writing or amusement. Worse still, she saw that there were no respectable lodgings in which a soldier's wife could pass the night, and to which she could take her children. So great was the prejudice against soldiers and their wives, that the few decent lodging houses were closed against them. There were instances where the wives of soldiers had preferred to walk the streets the whole night, or had taken shelter under railway arches, or in half-finished houses, rather than go to the only lodgings into which they would be received." The women and children also when disembarking from the troopships, or while awaiting embarkation, found utterly insufficient barrack accommodation, and suffered greatly from hunger, cold, sickness and weariness.

To face these gigantic evils there was only a solitary woman, single-handed. She felt that something must be done, but no one gave her any encouragement. The most favourable answer she received was that her ideas were chimerical; they might succeed in other places, but never in Portsmouth. She planned and carefully revised the details of a scheme for a Soldiers' Home, which she laid before the army authorities, and they consented to grant a piece of land for a site and to supply the stone required for building. This concession was, however, only made on condition that there should be no Bible classes in her institution: to this Miss Robinson would not consent, and, accordingly, she refused the Government assistance and appealed to the public. Her appeal was answered, and her incessant exertions produced the usual result of single-minded work. In two years she had raised £13,000, had purchased and fitted up a house, and in September, 1874, she opened the Portsmouth Soldiers' Institute, where she now lives.

The house is thus described by the writer of the little pamphlet referred to.—

The Institute is situated in High Street, Portsmouth, and near the Infantry Barracks. The house, or rather a part of it, was formerly the Fountain Hotel. Two adjoining houses were subsequently acquired; communications were opened so as to throw them all into one, and the whole was fitted up, furnished, and adapted for the use of the soldiers and sailors. I was shown over the place by Mr. Tufnell, the intelligent manager, who has been an invaluable aid to Miss Robinson throughout, and whose interest in the work equals her own. On the ground floor there are two reception rooms, where the men can bring their friends, both male and female, a lavatory, a bar where every kind of wholesome food and non-intoxicating drink can be had at moderate prices, neatly and cleanly served, two billiard rooms with excellent tables. The charge is a penny a game to each player, the accumulated pennies received have already been sufficient to pay the cost of the tables, gas, &c., and to provide other games. Betting at any game is strictly prohibited, and cards are not allowed. A comfortable coffee and smoke room completes the accommodation on the ground floor. The kitchen, servants' hall, &c., are in the basement. Upstairs is a large airy reading room, well supplied with papers, periodicals, and books, and a large lending library. At one end of the room is a long table, upon which at intervals are blotting books and inkstands; pens are provided, and they can buy their paper and stamps at the bar. This room is extremely comfortable, and as may be supposed, is a popular resort, especially on a cold or



wet day. Then there is a room which is used for children's meetings and the women's sewing classes, and mothers' meetings, also for classes of drummer boys. In the side wing are Miss Robinson's apartments, where she and other ladies live at their own expense.

In a retired part of the building is a Bible class room, well provided with religious publications, and a fine American organ, and there a Bible class is held each evening, conducted by an officer or some competent person, and on Sunday afternoon by Miss Robinson herself. A notice of the meetings to be held during the week is posted up in several conspicuous places about the house. Above are dormitories and bathrooms for soldiers and sailors, and for families, and very clean and inviting they looked. In each bedroom there is washing apparatus, and plenty of soap and fresh water. The Institute makes up seventy beds.

Here a soldier or sailor on leave can find a clean and comfortable lodging for a night or for as long as he likes, for a very moderate cost; and here the soldiers in garrison can bring their wives, or mothers, or sisters, or any friend who may pay them a visit. At the back of the Institute there is a large grass plot or bowling green, with flower beds, garden seats, and paved path round it; at one side of this there is a skittle alley, and at the end of it a large kitchen and baggage store, with a fine room above for the sailor lads from the training ships, who frequent the Institute by hundreds. Here also is a Hall to seat nine hundred people, where the Sunday evening special services are held, also lectures, concerts, and tea-meetings, and which is sometimes let for public meetings. A doorway out of the hall admits to the Officers House, where they or their friends can be lodged as comfortably, certainly more economically, than in any hotel; this house is self-supporting.

A building so comprehensive in its plan, so thoroughly well-adapted in its details, was sure to be successful. There was so much wisdom and sound sense, and large-hearted charity, in what Miss Robinson undertook, that its usefulness became at once apparent. All the naval and military officers in the garrison now fully recognise the importance of her work. The daily average of men using the house exceeds 300. More than 1,600 have voluntarily enrolled their names in the temperance pledge book, 500 women have been members of the mothers' meetings, and nearly 900 children have attended the Band of Hope.

Although the Institute was always free to sailors as well as to soldiers, and a large sailor boys' room was added in 1879, specially for the use of the lads from the training ships, yet it soon became evident that another house was needed, if sailors were to receive the same benefits as soldiers. The Institute was a mile

distant from the dockyard gates, and the whole way was beset with public houses, and other temptations; many sailors would not take the trouble to come so far, and others really had not the time. There were repeated requests for another house. Miss Robinson's hands were already so full of work, and her health was so delicate, that she tried to induce other people to take up the work, offering to help them, and particularly Miss Weston of the Sailors' Rest, Devonport, was entreated, both by her, and by many naval officers to establish a house similar to the Devonport home. Miss Weston was compelled to refuse,\* so a second time, finding it was absolutely needful that the work should be done, and that there was no one else to do it, Miss Robinson opened a small house for sailors in March, 1879, with beds, bath, refreshment bar, recreation and smoking room, and another room for reading and Bible classes: but these premises proved far too small for the demand, and sometimes 40 or 50 men were refused entrance at once, simply because there was no room for them. In April, 1880, some large premises near by were offered for sale, and Miss Robinson bought them at once, at a cost of £2,000, which, from the urgency of the case, she was compelled to borrow. £4,000 more has been spent in fitting up the place, and for this purpose subscriptions are urgently necessary. A great part of the house is already open and is being well used, and there is every probability that it will be ultimately self-supporting. It is called the "Sailors' Welcome," but it is free to soldiers as well as sailors, and the refreshment bar at which no intoxicating drink is allowed, is open also to the general public and to dockyard

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\* Nearly a year after the establishment of the Sailors' Welcome, Miss Weston found herself able to do something there, and opened a nice little "Sailors' Rest," in Commercial Road, Landport, about a mile from the other. "It seems a pity," Miss Robinson adds, "that she could not have earlier decided upon this, and thus have spared me the burden of additional work, only undertaken because she declined it. At the same time we do feel that *both* houses are needed—there being more than a thousand drink-shops in this port and garrison, and while 26,000 sailors and marines visit Devonport in the year, 40,000 visit Portsmouth, so that large provision needs to be made for them."

men. The full address is the Sailors' Welcome, 88, Queen Street, Portsea.

Another important part of Miss Robinson's work is the publishing of troop-ship books, which with tracts and Testaments are distributed among soldiers and sailors at home and abroad. "Christianity and Teetotalism," by Miss Robinson, "Active Service," by Ellice Hopkins, "Light in Darkness," "Small Tracts for Soldiers," are among these books, and they are highly valued by the young fellows whom these voices from home do much towards keeping steady. "Perhaps she is not aware," writes a Corporal at Barbadoes, belonging to the Army Hospital Corps, "that she comes next to the Queen in the soldiers' estimation, but she is well-known out here, and I very seldom examine a soldier's or sailor's kit (I am pack store-keeper) without finding one of her famous little books."

The operations of the Institute are still extending; it cannot be altogether self-supporting, for many of the women and children who are taken in and lodged, are unable to pay anything at all for their entertainment, and the charges for lodgings for the men and the refreshments are fixed at the lowest possible rates, and not with a view to profit. There is urgent need for more lodging-houses outside the Institute for the families of soldiers of the garrison, who are not provided with quarters by Government; and clothes have to be supplied to destitute women and children about to embark with their husbands on foreign service, or arriving in England. Gifts of warm clothing are especially valuable for the wives of the soldiers who have been in India, and who feel the cold of the home-climate extremely; in these cases the clothes are often sent out to meet them when embarking in India, so as to be of service on the return voyage.

It will be no surprise to those who know something of the wear of physical strength involved in establishing and carrying out all these undertakings, and the incessant work of writing and speaking at meetings to obtain subscriptions (for the collection of the funds hitherto has depended almost entirely on her personal exertions), to hear that Miss Robinson has

broken down in health, and her illness—spinal complaint, from which she has long suffered—now almost confines her to her rooms. She has not spared her own private means in the work, and she and the ladies helping her live on their own incomes, so that there is no expensive machinery of clerks, collectors, or superintendent to be kept up. She suggests now, many ways in which the much needed help may be given her, and some of these ways will surely be within the reach of the readers of this paper.

1. By giving and collecting money.
2. By legacies to the Trustees for the endowment of the Institute.
3. By convening drawing-room meetings on behalf of the work.
4. By getting up amateur concerts or fancy sales to aid the funds.
5. By young ladies giving personal service at the Institute.
6. By working for our annual bazaar, or collecting articles from other friends.
7. By gifts of old or new clothing for soldiers' wives or children (baby linen most acceptable).
8. By circulating papers or books giving information about the work—these can be supplied from the Institute.
9. By sending orders for ladies' and children's underlinen, beautifully made by our soldiers' wives.
10. By enabling us to place soldiers' orphans in Homes or schools.
11. By undertaking to raise £12 yearly for the maintenance of one child.
12. By ladies acting as the Institute correspondents, friends, and collectors in their own neighbourhoods, where the post is not already filled.

All communications to be addressed to Miss Sarah Robinson, Soldiers' Institute, Portsmouth.

We are sometimes told that women are deficient in the power of grasping large schemes, though their genius enables them to carry out details. The work which Miss Robinson has done is, however, additional proof that some women, at least, are eminently capable of organising great schemes. Our military administration, though maintaining order within barracks, was absolutely incapable of fighting with the evils and temptations outside; it needed a frail woman to step forward, and show them (as Florence Nightingale did in her own department) what a woman's tact, steadiness, energy and devotion were able to accomplish. Such a Soldiers' Institute as hers in Portsmouth is needed in every garrison-town in the kingdom. Miss Robinson

has, like Columbus, shown us how to make the egg stand upright, and other brave and resolute women will surely be found to follow her example.

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#### ART. III.—WOMEN AS POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

THE time is now approaching when those ladies whose attention has been drawn to the great need that exists for their co-operation in stemming the increasing evil of pauperism, should take pains to see that they are duly qualified for election as Guardians of the Poor, so that no technical difficulty may interfere with their performance of this most womanly occupation.

The importance of having sensible and practical women on the Boards of Guardians cannot be too often dwelt upon. The duties of a guardian are firstly towards the poor and helpless, to whom he may be either a most efficient friend, or little better than a tyrant; secondly to the ratepayers, on whose account he must try by a wise and careful economy, and by judicious repression of pauperism to save the public money. The diminution of pauperism is a subject which all philanthropists ought carefully to consider. This must be mainly effected by the better education of the children; there is little chance comparatively of helping an adult pauper back into the ranks of the independent, wage-earning classes, but there can never be any need that a pauper child should grow up to consider the workhouse as his ultimate destiny. In some places the plan has been tried with success of boarding out the children singly in respectable families; in others of bringing them up on the cottage system in groups of 12 or 20, where they learn independence, energy, self-control, and other moral qualities which are unattainable in the large workhouse schools. These systems have been very slowly and partially adopted; much more slowly than if ladies had been among the Guardians who had to decide upon the comparative merits of home-life and school-life. But this is a matter which much needs the attention of women. How best to give a happy child-life to all these forlorn little creatures who will infallibly drift into pauperism, unless their healthy energies and affections are roused, is a work which is peculiarly womanly; and if there must still be large schools where great masses of children are herded together, the importance of having qualified ladies to superintend and control the details of such education is all the greater.\*

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\* Any lady intending to offer herself as guardian should carefully study these questions beforehand. The "Reports of Conferences by Poor Law Guardians," published by Knight & Co., 90, Fleet Street, will be of great use to her. She should also study the means that have been successfully taken to diminish pauperism in the east of London by reducing out-door relief.

Women are more economical than men, it is said. The ordinary teaching of life for men is to earn money, and for women to lay out the money so earned to the best advantage. Partly from this cause, and partly from having usually less money to spend than men, and being obliged to make a little go a long way, women do study economy, and would be more likely than men to be careful of the public money and not lavish it uselessly. Constant supervision and checking of expense is a most necessary part of a guardian's work, and I believe that if women were to help in this duty, a real gain would ultimately be made to the pockets of the ratepayers without causing the paupers to suffer.

Again, the office of a guardian is unpaid, and takes up a great deal of time—more time than the majority of men who have a profession of their own are able to spare. A much larger proportion of women have leisure at their command, which could not be more usefully employed than in trying to alleviate the sufferings and remedy the ignorance of our lowest classes. Women already do much in this direction. They are district visitors, deaconesses, Bible-readers; they have organised clothing clubs, mother's-meetings, soup-kitchens, and thus their training has already brought them into close acquaintance with the habits of the poor. This past experience will make them less likely to be imposed on by false pretences of want, and more keen to discover real cases of misery than men who have seldom had time to give to these details.

Not only do women and children form the very large majority of paupers, so that it seems natural and fitting that the Board which controls and takes care of them should not be composed entirely of men; but every Poor Law Union employs a good many women in subordinate capacities, and it would be a great advantage to the nurses, matrons and female school teachers to have ladies among their employers whom they might consult on difficult questions, or offer their suggestions or complaints to. There are numerous cases which will readily occur to the mind of every woman, in the management of the sick and the babies, or the feeding and clothing of the children, especially the girls, which a matron is most unwilling to bring before a Board of gentlemen, and which for that reason are either ignored or mismanaged. We all know how important it is to have ladies on the School-Boards, though children only spend six or seven hours at lessons. How much more necessary it is to have ladies engaged in the supervision of workhouses, and the control of workhouse-schools, which are the homes as well as schools of the children. Also, when the girls of 14 or 15 go out to domestic service, there ought to be some ladies in a position of authority to give them kind advice and encouragement.

There is a good deal of rough and disagreeable work, undoubtedly, to be encountered in this duty. Some of the cases which come before the Board of Guardians are painful in the extreme, and if there is but one lady on the Board it will be a particularly hard trial to her to listen to them. But she must remember that possibly as a guardian she may be enabled to say the right word in season, to comfort, advise, or, it may be, save some poor creature driven almost to despair. If it be hard for her to sit and listen, how much

harder still for the young girl or poor mother under discussion if none of her own sex are there to countenance her. It is the most Christian work a woman can take up. The poor we have always with us, and the very poorest of the poor are in charge of the guardians—mostly old and sick, and women and infants, people to whom kindness and sympathy are almost of more value than the bread they eat. Indiscriminate alms-giving is not Christian charity, neither is paying your rates. But giving time and trouble to see that the rates are applied properly for the greatest benefit, morally as well as physically, is the noblest charity of all.

In London, last spring, seven ladies were elected Guardians, and two in the country. These ladies have already aided in some necessary reforms, and so far their election has been of use. But they are like drops in the ocean, for there are about 630 Unions, and parishes having each its Board of Guardians. How urgent, therefore, is the want of more ladies to help in the work.

I would earnestly entreat all women to see what they can do in this matter. They may help the cause in many ways. The most important is by being willing to undertake the duty of guardian themselves. Ladies must remember that to be eligible for election they must be householders, and have themselves paid the last rate (due in January) before the election. (In most London parishes the house must be of £40 value, but it is lower in some places, and this a lady desiring to be Guardian will ascertain.) If she is not already a householder, she should take pains to qualify herself as soon as possible. Sometimes a mother living with her daughters would make over the house to one of them to give her the necessary qualification; or sisters living together should take care that the name of that one who is going to stand is entered on the rate-book. In every case women should take *legal advice* so that the qualification may be thoroughly sound: both time and money may be wasted without this precaution.

Next, all those ladies who are unable to offer themselves as guardians personally can help in other ways; by joining, or persuading their friends, men as well as women, to join the Association for Promoting the Return of Women as Poor Law Guardians, (Miss Eva Muller, 86, Portland Place, London, W., is Hon. Sec., and the subscription is 2s. 6d.), or by acting as corresponding members, or forming local committees, like one already at work in Bristol, to look out for, and help some suitable lady in her election. The method of election is by filling up a voting paper, which is given to every householder, women as well as men: mistakes often occur in doing this, and no lady can give better help than by going before the election to explain to her neighbours the right way of recording their votes.

In Ireland there is no possibility of carrying out this reform till the law is altered. Neither women or clergymen are eligible as Poor Law Guardians, and this double restriction has been found sometimes to work very injuriously. It is probable that a measure may be passed with little difficulty to assimilate the Irish law in this respect to the English law, provided that a sufficient body of public opinion be favourable to the change. There is, therefore, equal need for

Irish ladies also to express their willingness to serve as Guardians, and to qualify themselves for doing so, that this great reform, when it comes, may not find a want of earnest and efficient helpers to carry it forward.

C. A. Biggs.

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#### ART. IV.—AMERICAN HEROINES.

Two instances of great courage shown by women were recently reported in the American newspapers.

The following appears in the *Oyden (Iowa) Reporter* of the 20th ult.:—"On last Wednesday night, when O'Neil, Donahue, and Olmstead went down to death, a noble girl, but 15 years of age, was watching and praying for those whose duty called them out over the railroad in the fearful storm. Kate Shelly, whose father was killed on the railroad some years ago, lives with her mother just on the east side of the river, and nearly opposite where the engine made the fearful plunge, and Donahue and Olmstead lost their lives. Miss Shelly and her mother heard the crash, and, realising what had happened, Kate took a lantern and, amid the hurricane of wind, the deluge of water, the incessant glare of the lightning and peal upon peal of thunder, left her home and started for the wreck. Her light soon went out, but she felt her way through the woods and fallen timbers to the edge of the lashing waters that covered the drowned men. She could hear, above the roar of the tempest, the voice of Wood, the engineer, who had caught in a tree top. She knew that the express, with the load of passengers, was nearly due, and none to warn them of their danger. She, a young girl, was the only living being who could prevent an awful catastrophe. The telegraph office at Moingona or Boone was the only place where she could notify the officers. To Boone was five miles over hills and through the woods, and before she could get there the express would have passed. To Moingona was only a mile, but between here and Moingona was the Des Moines River, 10 or 15 feet above its natural height, and to cross this she must over the railroad bridge, 50 feet above the



rushing waters. She must cross this bridge, 400 feet long, with nothing but the ties and rails, the wind blowing a gale, and the foaming, seething, muddy waters beneath. Not one man in a thousand but would have shrunk from such a task. Not one man in five hundred would have gone over at any price or under any circumstances. But this brave, noble girl, with nerve of a giant, gathered about her her flowing skirts, and on hands and knees crawled over the long weary bridge. Tie after tie was passed. It was time for the express train to come dashing over the bridge, and to hurl her down to death amid the dark and muddy waters of the roaring, rushing river. The blood from her lacerated knees has stained her dress, but she does not falter. She reaches the shore, and the remaining half-mile she flies almost to the telegraph office. Breathless, and in broken accents, she tells her tale of death and destruction, and faints in the arms of the bystanders. The wires were set at work, and a most terrible disaster averted."

It is proposed in Iowa to present a testimonial to Kate Shelly. One suggestion is that the commercial travellers of the country should take it into their own hands, and each contribute one dollar to the fund.

The second case is reported in the *Woman's Journal* of Boston:—"That sheriff's wife at Grand Haven, Michigan, who caged a lot of 'lynchers' who had broken into a prison, deserves a 'brevet' and something of more substantial value for 'meritorious service.' The story comes that about a dozen of the 'most respected farmers' of the neighbourhood made up their minds to hang a man who, according to their primitive notions of justice, ought to be killed off-hand, and they broke into the jail for that purpose. The sheriff's wife heard them, after they had overpowered a deputy-sheriff, and got the keys from him, and finding them all in the enclosure, she shut the gates, barred the doors, and hived the whole swarm. Then she sent another woman to sound the fire alarm, which roused the town, brought a crowd of citizens to the rescue, and the dozen 'most respected farmers' were all arrested. Here is a quick eye to take in a situation, quick wit and readiness of resource, and prompt action. That woman is a born tactician. She

has done the State a great service, and should have the reward due to such service. Yet the law-breakers have votes, and this woman has none!"

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## REVIEW.

### *Four Crotchets to a Bar.*

A story that is evidently intended to be amusing, and which is written with a certain sprightliness, but the principal *dramatis personæ*, four elderly sisters, represent so touchingly the dreary element that forms part of so many women's lives, that our impression of the book is pathetic rather than entertaining. There have been eight sisters, and while the chief part of the property, unembarrassed with any conditions, has been left to the brother, they are provided with £100 a year each, payable every three months by the hands of four careful trustees, and hemmed up with conditions. "Thus the Miss Crotchets were relieved by their expiring parent from ever feeling any feminine anxieties as to the disposition of their property, and their treatment as grown-up children was carefully secured for the term of their natural life." When four of the sisters have died, their income is less by one half. "Four hundred pounds a year is less for four persons to live upon than eight, and after four the difference rapidly increases. One hundred more gone, and the house could scarcely be kept up, and the consequences to them would be very embarrassing. As the result of these considerations, their solicitude about each other's health rapidly increased. The poor old ladies, with their blank, slow lives, were beginning, after a number of years of indifference, to scan each other's faces closely with a new anxiety. Every fresh sign of approaching age and inevitable decay was noted down now with unaccustomed tremors, and monotony and passivity had aged the Miss Crotchets more than many a troubled existence had aged the wives and mothers around them. It may have been the mere decay of unused faculties, or it

may have been that in missing the depressing influences of common sorrows, they had missed also the exhilarating effects of common joys." Of their poor little troubles, their fretfulness, their oddities, their wearying domestic criticism, the reader has more than enough. The picture of the dreary monotony of these poor old ladies' lives is only a too faithful sketch of the colourless sameness in which women have been accustomed to live, without any command of money to give them variety, any business to exercise their faculties, no possibility of change to give a piquancy to their hum-drum existence; they may be said to vegetate rather than live.

We read the other day in the *Herald of Health* the following very sensible remarks:

America also has its surplus female population and its old maids, and a lady, writing in the New York *Herald of Health*, tells them how to make the best of it:—"Half the terrors of a single life to a woman lie in the fact that she will never have a home of her own, but must remain a dependent on father and brothers; the one too many in the household; the beneficiary on sufferance in the family, though she actually work twice as much as the rightful members. A father naturally sets a boy on his own feet at coming of age. But as naturally he keeps his daughter dependent on himself. It is a pleasure, perhaps, to him to give her gowns and pin-money at thirty as when she was three. He does not reflect that she has the longing, equally natural to every man and woman, to take her own place in the world; to be a rooted plant, not a parasite. The difficulty is easily solved. If the father is wealthy, let him settle absolutely upon his daughter, when she is of a marrying age, the amount he would have given her as a dower, instead of doling out the interest as constant gifts; if he is a poor man, let him give her some trade or occupation by which she can earn her own money. This course would obviate the mercenary necessity of marriage which rises night and day before the penniless dependent woman."

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### "MASTER IN CHANCERY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW."

MADAM,—A perusal of the following paragraph may interest some of your readers:—

"MASTER OR MISTRESS.—We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Schuchardt, daughter of Ex-Governor Dougherty, the woman Master

in Chancery, of Union County, has at last won her case. Judge Harker, of the Circuit Court, paid her the compliment of saying that she was the most competent Master in his circuit, but held that, as she was a woman, she could not legally hold the office. She appealed to the Appellate Court, composed of Judges Casey, Baker, and Wall, and they without giving any reason, or writing any opinion, affirmed the judgment of Judge Harker. Mrs. Schuchardt again appealed, and took the case to the Supreme Court; and on Tuesday last that Court, by Judge Scholefield, reversed the judgment of the two Courts below, and held that a woman could hold the office of Master in Chancery."—*Chicago Legal News*.

The success of the American women in obtaining so many lucrative and honourable posts in that country, and the concessions conceded to them by the opposite sex, are probably owing to the fact that the old-fashioned prejudices against women holding offices and the like, and earning their own livelihood, have not had time to take so deep a root in that soil as in the old country. That women are competent to fill these posts is evident from this instance in which Mrs. Schuchardt has been tried, and has not been found wanting in capability, but on the contrary, Judge Harker stated that she was the most competent Master in his circuit.

Yours faithfully,

*Oxford and Cambridge Club.*

MERVON WHITE, M.A.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### WELSH EDUCATION COMMISSION.

THE report of the Welsh Education Commission was laid before the House of Commons on August 19th, and contains very satisfactory recommendations for the better education of girls. It will be remembered that the evidence given before the Commission showed that very small provision had been hitherto made with this object. There are 27 endowed schools for boys, conducted as grammar schools, in Wales, with an income of about £12,788, while for the education of girls there are but three endowed schools in the whole Principality, *viz.*, those at Denbigh and Llandaff, supported out of the funds of Howell's charity, and the school at Dolgelly, created by a scheme under the Endowed Schools' Act, maintained on funds amounting to about £300 a year. With the exception of the Dolgelly School no endowments had been applied to the higher education

of girls at day-schools, and there was nothing equivalent to the schools of the Girls' Public Day School Company or the two Camden Road Schools, the North London Collegiate School and the Camden Schools. The Howell endowment had been applied to the foundation of what resembled charity boarding schools, and especially for the advantage of the Church population in Wales; and the difficulty in the way of Nonconformist girls being admitted to schools at Denbigh and Llandaff was great from the constitution of those schools, coupled with the fact that the mistresses are required to sign a declaration that they belong to the Church of England, and the examiners must be priests in holy orders. In private schools the proportion was fairer, as there were 73 girls' schools with an attendance of 1,871, compared with 79 boys' schools with an attendance of 2,287. In the great majority of these schools the pupils were the children of tradesmen and farmers.

The Committee suggests the establishment of good intermediate schools to be established and fitted up by means of a county rate, and of advanced elementary schools, such as at present do not exist. Although the recommendation for the new schools for boys applies also to girls, the Committee thinks that the burden of supplying them that would otherwise fall on the rates could be lightened by a more advantageous employment of some of the endowments now applicable to the education of girls, and suggests:—

1. That the distinctive character of the schools at Denbigh and Llandaff as orphanages should be done away, with due regard of course, to the interests of those at the time in receipt of any benefit.

2. That the schools should be reconstituted as middle-class boarding and day schools for girls, providing board and education at a charge as low as is compatible with efficiency.

3. That out of the income from endowment a yearly sum of not more than £1,500 should be applied for the purposes of each school, and that out of this amount a sum of at least £500 should be reserved for scholarships tenable in the school, in aid both of board and tuition,

and with some preference, if it is thought desirable, for orphans.

4. That the residue of the income should be employed either in subsidising existing girls' schools in Wales, or in assisting to establish new ones.

It recommends (and this is a most important point) that a fair proportion of the governing bodies of the new schools should be women.

It also deals with the Welsh schools at Ashford in Middlesex, which possess property to the value of £49,000, and recommend that this endowment should be applied to the education of girls—children of Welsh parents—suggesting that the schools should be removed to Wales if the present buildings can be advantageously disposed of.

The Ashford School originated in 1714, and was at first, established and maintained by voluntary contributions. It was for children, one of whose parents at least was born in a Welsh county or parish. In course of time the foundation became possessed of the above considerable property which is invested in Government securities, while it is believed there is no Welsh speaking child in the school. Some change is therefore obviously desirable. The Committee goes on to say:—

It has been shown how defective the provision is for the education higher than elementary, of girls in Wales, and apart from State assistance how scanty are the sources from which it can be aided. In such circumstances if an endowment can without serious injury to other interests be diverted or restricted to the education of girls, it seems equitable that this should be done, and that in this way the balance should to some extent be redressed in favour of the sex, which is confessedly at present at a great disadvantage. We think that the Ashford school endowment is one to which this principle may properly be applied, and we recommend therefore that it should hereafter be reserved for the education of girls, the children of Welsh parents.

We think that the education provided should be distinctly higher than elementary, but should be of a practical character, including possibly some kind of industrial or economic training.

In its recommendations concerning exhibitions from the lower to the higher schools, the Committee carefully defines these exhibitions as "to be competed for by *boys and girls* natives of Wales or Monmouthshire."

On the question of a degree-conferring University in Wales, the Committee has not made any recommendation with special reference to women. Their power of receiving degrees would depend on some college to which they were admitted, being affiliated to the University, and such a college has yet to come into existence. Among the witnesses who gave evidence last spring before the Commission was Dr. Frances Hoggan; she suggested a scheme under which "Women should be admitted to all examinations, and to be eligible for degrees (as at the London University) at the Welsh University it is proposed to establish, and to be admitted on equal terms with men to all the classes at any university colleges or technical schools founded with public money as well as to their fair share of scholarships and exhibitions." As the recommendations of the Commission have in nearly every instance coincided with the rest of Mrs. Hoggan's suggestions, we may hope for the same happy conclusion on this point also, and trust that the same equitable spirit which has dictated the extended endowment of schools for girls, to remedy existing disadvantages, will predominate when the Welsh University shall become a *fait accompli*.

#### REPORT OF THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE YEAR, 1880.

The following is an extract from the Report:—

"In our Report for the year 1878 we referred briefly to the success which had attended schools established under the Endowed Schools Acts for the higher education of girls, and we are glad to be able to state that in several cases now in progress substantial effect has been given to the requirement of section 12 of the Endowed Schools Act, 1869, that in framing Schemes under that Act, provision shall be made, as far as conveniently may be, for extending to girls the benefits of endowments.

"Should the Scheme for David Hughes' Charity at

Beaumaris, for Tasker's Charity at Haverfordwest, for the Crypt School and Rich's Hospital at Gloucester, for Dulwich College, for Christ's Hospital, Ipswich, and, above all, for Christ's Hospital, London, take effect, five day schools and an important development of one existing boarding school for the higher education of girls will be secured out of endowments hitherto almost wholly devoted, so far as they were educational at all, to the education of boys. An important subsidy to the education of girls in Manchester is contemplated in the pending Scheme for the Hulme Charity, and other Schemes in progress contain provisions for employing endowment in some form or other for the education of girls. At the same time, it must be obvious that what we have been able to accomplish, however satisfactory in itself, is far from meeting the full requirements of the case, and that if provision for the higher education of girls is to be made to an extent approximately equal to that existing for boys, it must be found in resources not now within the scope of the Endowed Schools Acts.

It may be hoped, therefore, that whenever further powers are given for the improved application of Charities now obsolete or useless, amongst the modes of application directed, due prominence may be given to the advancement of the education of girls.

#### ROYAL IRISH UNIVERSITY.

It is announced that all prizes, honours, and degrees which the Royal University of Ireland can confer, are open to female as well as to male students.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS IN DERRY AND COLERAINE.

The Irish Society has given fifty acres of land for a public park in Derry, and two scholarships to Girton College of £50 annually, to be competed for by the girls of Derry and Coleraine. Another scholarship of £50 annually has been left by Mr. John McCullough in the hands of the Misses MacKillip, for the use of the girls in the Collegiate School.

#### LADIES COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, DERRY.

On August 17th, a Collegiate School for girls just



erected by the Misses MacKillip in Crawford Square, Derry, was formerly opened by the Mayor of Derry, Sir Edward Reed, J.P. The proceedings were marked with the greatest unanimity, and there was a general expression of opinion with reference to the position the Misses MacKillip's pupils had attained in the past, and the debt due by the public to them for their efforts in the direction of the higher education of women.

The MAYOR, in opening the proceedings, said—The Institution had cost in its erection a very considerable sum of money, and a very large amount of labour must have devolved upon the Misses MacKillip in providing such handsome premises. He trusted that these exertions would be crowned with the success they deserve, and had no doubt at all that, from the success that has before attended the Institution, with more favourable advantages by the way of spacious rooms and more extensive accommodation, they will be fully enabled to conduct their school in a manner which will keep up the high character which it has hitherto enjoyed, if indeed, the success is not altogether surpassed. He was exceedingly sorry that the Governor of the Irish Society was unable to attend, as he had taken great interest in institutions of this kind, and as a proof of that, the society had agreed to institute scholarships to pupils in attendance at this Institution, and from other places in Derry and Coleraine. It was stated last night that two scholarships would be offered for girls, the Governor, in appropriate terms, expressing the desire of the Society to do something for the girls as well as for the boys. It would be a great advantage to the City of Derry.

Mr. YOUNG, of the Academical Institution, Derry, said—As a fellow-labourer with Miss MacKillip in the field of education, I esteem it a high privilege to have the opportunity of congratulating her on the completion of this building. I can testify to the energy and to the success with which Miss MacKillip has carried on the work of educating boys in the Academical Institution, and I may say she still retains connection with that place. But the idea occurred to her that she could teach girls, large and small, as well as she could teach

boys, and that idea has grown until its size is seen in the proceedings of this day. I notice, among other things in the lower part of the building, that a gymnasium has been fitted up. I am glad to see that the question of intellectual pursuits is not the sole subject which actuated the minds of the promoters, and such exercise as could be derived in the gymnasium was of the utmost utility, more especially in connection with the education of boys, though for girls it is equally useful. I also notice that a tennis court has been provided outside, so that the girls will have opportunities of enjoying that game. In passing from one room to the other I notice that, instead of the ordinary grate, the fireplace has been fitted up as a cooking stove. I understand it is the intention to give lessons in regard to cookery, and teach the girls generally the science of housekeeping. I submit, and you will agree with me that this is a very great feature in a girl's education, and I think Miss MacKillip has done well to give the subject prominence. Arrangements have also been made whereby girls can be trained as teachers, who will give instruction in some things, and in turn receive instruction themselves. I heard with pleasure from Sir Sydney Waterlow, at the Mayor's hospitable board last night, the announcement of the Girton scholarships. I believe that these scholarships are open to the girls attending all schools in Derry and Coleraine; but, notwithstanding the fact that they are on such a broad basis, I believe that the institution of these scholarships is due entirely to the assiduity of Miss MacKillip, in looking after the interests of education in this quarter. Indeed, the conduct of the memorial was undertaken by Miss MacKillip, and was supported by the various schools and friends of education in Derry and Coleraine. These scholarships are each valued for £50 a year for three years. One of them will be competed for 1882, and the other the following year. You will notice that there is a blank, but I trust that by the end of 1883, the Irish Society will see its way to supply the blank year, so that permanently there will be three young ladies at Cambridge from the North of Ireland. I have now to make an announcement to which no reference

has been made. There is another scholarship which is confined to this place, and of the value of £50 annually, the details of which are left in the hands of the Misses MacKillip themselves, and I am sure the regulations in connection with the examination will be duly announced. This noble scholarship has been conferred by Mr. John MacCullough, whose name is well known everywhere as a great dramatic artist and interpreter of the greatest poet of the world. Now, with regard to the success which has attended this Institution, I do not know the standard of success everyone may take. If we select the results in connection with the examinations held heretofore, we may safely say that the success of the school is an accomplished fact. I have now only to wish Miss MacKillip abundant success in this new building, which has been so auspiciously opened this day.

THE OXFORD ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF WOMEN.—An Examination will be held early in October, 1881, at which two open scholarships, one of the value of £30 a year for two years, the other of £25 for one year, will be awarded to ladies over seventeen years of age, who propose to attend the Lectures organized by the Association. All candidates will be examined in English Composition. Papers will be set in Mathematics, and in the Greek, Latin, German, and French languages. Candidates may offer any of these subjects. Communications concerning these scholarships should be addressed to Mrs. T. H. Green, 14, St. Giles', Oxford. At the same Examination an Exhibition, tenable only at Lady Margaret Hall, of the value of £25 a year for two years, will be awarded. For the special conditions attached to this Exhibition, application should be made to the Lady Principal, Miss Wordsworth, Riseholm, Lincoln. Also at the same Examination two Exhibitions, tenable only at Somerville Hall, of the respective values of £35 a year for three years, and of £25 a year for two years, will be awarded. For further information as to the subjects of Examination, candidates are requested to apply to the Lady Principal, Miss M. Shaw-Lefevre, 41, Seymour Street, London, W.

#### OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

The long expected division lists have at last been issued. In the department of seniors, 379 boys and 388 girls (as against 292 boys and 383 girls last year) offered themselves, of whom 249 boys and 225 girls (as against 200 boys and 217 girls last year) obtained the title of Associate in Arts, thus showing an increase in both sexes. Of the junior boys, 1,172 offered themselves, as against 1,100 last year, of whom 716 passed, against 709 last year; 403 young girls, against 344 last year, went up for examination at the various centres, of whom 249 satisfied the examiners, against 195 last year, and will, with the junior boys, be entitled to certificates of having passed. In the first division of seniors there is one young lady, as against one in the first division last year, and in the second division there are 12, against eight last year. Of junior females there are five in the first division, as against the same number last year, and in the second division 26, against 19. Five young ladies have shown sufficient merit to be excused from the first examination for women over 18 years of age, viz., Miss V. A. Bonner, Oxford; Miss E. M. Chadbourne, Oxford; Miss B. Clarke, Cheltenham; Miss M. A. A. Sloan, Liverpool; and Miss M. Spottiswoode, London. The examinations for 1882 will commence at Oxford and elsewhere on Monday, June 5. The regulations for the examination of women over 18 years of age have also been published. The first examination will be held in June and December, 1882. The second examinations will be held in June, 1882, only.

#### MR. VERE FOSTER'S NATIONAL COMPETITION.

Mr. Vere Foster thus writes to the *Northern Whig*, Belfast:—

We have received the following report respecting the eleventh annual distribution of prizes, 1881, in the national competition in writing, lettering, drawing, and painting:—The national competition in writing and drawing was instituted by me in the year 1870, and is open to pupils of either public or private schools throughout the United Kingdom. Three thousand five hundred and sixty prizes have been already distributed, amounting to £1,622 12s. 6d., and the competition has extended to every county and every large town in Great Britain and Ireland. During the past year there have been

700 competitors in ordinary writing, 78 in plain and ornamental lettering, 271 in drawing, and 105 in painting. Three hundred and eighty-one boys have competed, and six hundred and seventy-two girls, and there are about the same number of competitors from Great Britain as from Ireland. The total number of books received is 1,675. They come from about 400 schools, situated in 72 counties. For the tenth time out of eleven the highest prize for ordinary writing has been won by a girl, notwithstanding the original predictions of some inspectors and teachers that the style of writing would be found suitable for boys only, but impracticable for girls, who were supposed to be incapable of acquiring any but an extravagantly angular style, whereas the style of this series is a compromise between round and angular. The winner of the £5 prize is Miss Bridget Kidney, only eleven years of age, a pupil of Midleton Presentation Convent School, County Cork. The competition in plain and ornamental lettering exhibits remarkable improvement. The two best written books are so equal in merit that it has been found impossible to decide between them. I have therefore divided the highest prize, £5, into two equal parts. The competition in drawing and painting, especially the latter, continues to be highly satisfactory, so much so, that in addition to the number of prizes advertised, I have issued a considerable number of certificates of honourable mention of meritorious work. The awards for ordinary writing were made, as usual, solely by myself, and those for lettering, drawing, and painting by an experienced committee. The examination was unavoidably delayed this year in consequence of my time having been almost entirely taken up with an overwhelming amount of correspondence on the subject of assisted emigration from the distressed districts of the West of Ireland, the busiest season for which is during the months of April, May, and June. A similar competition is invited for next year.

*Belfast, August, 1881.*

VERE FOSTER.

THE Cooper's Company are about to appoint an assistant mistress at their Middle Class School for Girls, Bow Road, at a salary of £50 per annum.

#### DUBLIN HOSPITAL GIRLS' AID ASSOCIATION.

An Association has just been organised at Dublin which supplies a want that is felt in every large town, although hitherto but little has been done to meet it—to help the young friendless women who have become mothers, when they leave the lying-in wards of hospitals and workhouses. Two ladies, Mrs. W. J. Hancock, 23, Synnot Place, and Mrs. R. M. Purcell, 14, Richmond Place, have undertaken the work of Hon. Secretaries, and the Committee of Reference consists of Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Gardiner, Mrs. Acheton-Henderson, Mrs. Marrable, and Lady Sinclair. There is also a

Visiting Committee of ladies, and a Consulting Committee of gentlemen. Their programme simply and touchingly points out the need of such an institution.

"Those who have experience of the lying-in wards of hospitals soon learn the existence of a very painful and sad class of cases—that is to say, young unmarried girls who seek shelter when about to become mothers, some as young as fourteen years of age.

"Many of these poor creatures owe their condition to the acts of others, over which they have no control, and often feel their condition so keenly that they fret themselves to death, thus swelling the mortality of such institutions, and leaving helpless babes cast on the world.

"Those who recover and are discharged from the Hospital find themselves at the gate without character, burdened with the support of a child, without a kind word or timely aid in their sore distress, and not knowing which way to turn. They are too apt to sink into a life vicious in itself, and ministering to vice in others, and after a few years of sin and shame are rescued as Magdalens. How much better it would be if they were rescued before entering upon such a career!

"In Paddington Union, one of the largest in London, an association has been started to meet this class of case, called 'The Paddington Workhouse Girls' Aid Association.'

"'The Dublin Hospital Girls' Aid Association' has been started, organised in some respects on the same principle, the object being:—

"To enquire into the cases of all unmarried girls under the age of twenty-one, who are about to, or have recently become mothers, for the first time; if found hopeful, to aid them by kind sympathy and advise, to try and have them reconciled to their friends, or procure shelter for them in some of the existing institutions, and afterwards find honest employment for them, keeping records of cases investigated.

"Magdalen Asylums, Penitentiaries, and Homes do a vast amount of good, but in many cases Magdalens seek an asylum only when health destroyed by disease, and

faded attractiveness precludes their continuing in a sinful life.

"The Dublin Hospital Girls' Aid Association' would tend to diminish their numbers; and to rescue them before entering on such a course is more hopeful than to attempt to rescue after several years passed in vice.

"The Hon. Secretaries will put themselves in communication with the Matron or Head Nurse of each Hospital or Ward where such cases arise. When a case comes in which is within the scope of the Association, an intimation could be sent to one of the Hon. Secretaries; then two ladies of the Committee could go to the girl as soon as she is in a condition to be seen, and the enquiry could then be commenced."

Offices: Christian Union Buildings,  
Lower Abbey Street, April, 1881.

#### THE CHURCH CONGRESS FOR 1881.

In an account of the arrangements for the forthcoming Church Congress, which is to be held at Newcastle in October, the *Times* mentions that there are one or two new features in the arrangements, one of which is a working women's meeting. Among the papers promised are two by ladies. On Wednesday afternoon October 5th, the special needs of the Church in the diocese of Durham will be spoken to by Miss Weston and others. On the Friday papers will be read on "The Church's Care of the Young," among others, by Mrs. Philip Papillon. The *Times* regrets the lack of more lay names in the programme. "Of the ninety-seven speakers and readers only ten are laymen, including two ladies." It is something to have women recognised in the Church even as "laymen." Possibly the time may come when they will be allowed to preach as well as to pray.

Miss Weston is the author of an interesting paper on the "Spreading of the Gospel by Women," in which she vindicates her position by reference to the great company of women preachers mentioned in Psalm lxxviii., the meaning of which is obscured in the English version by the omission of the feminine gender of the original Hebrew.—*Suffrage Journal*.

WOMEN'S WORK IN THE METHODIST CHURCH.

On September 10th an interesting discussion took place at the Methodist Conferences now being held in London, on the work of women in the Methodist Church. In America they have long been accustomed to preach.

The Rev. F. W. BOURNE, (the Bible Christian Churches of Great Britain,) read a paper on women and their work in Methodism. What could women do? Most things that men could do, and some of them better. They had engaged in all kinds of spiritual work, and he mentioned some noble women who had done much for the good of mankind. In his private opinion it was not best for women to preach in public, but where there had been exceptional gifts and opportunities, and women had preached successfully, he said "Well done." Isaac Taylor said that the mother of Wesley was the mother of Methodism. The New Testament prohibited women speaking with their heads uncovered, but did not forbid them to speak in religious services at all. Women were to be subject to the authority of their husbands, but to forbid women to preach or speak in religious meetings altogether was contrary to the New Testament. Women had nowhere shown more modesty than in the Society of Friends, which admitted female speaking in religious meetings. But the chief work of woman was in the home, in the school, in sick visiting, in collecting funds, and in mission work among females in some parts of the heathen world.

The Rev. C. H. PAYNE, D.D. (Methodist Episcopal Church), said no Church had honoured woman as Methodism had done, and no Church owed so much to women. What department of their work had not felt the magic touch of Christian women? They, as the Ecumenical Conference, gave to their Christian women at work all over the world a hearty God-speed.

The Rev. J. C. ANTLIPP (Canada) said there was a great deal of good work to be done by women outside the pulpit, and though he did not advocate the establishment of guilds, they might well have more of female visitation among the poor.



General BUSSEY (American) said he could bear testimony to the usefulness of the wives of the ministers.

Alderman CHARLTON (Primitive Methodist, from Newcastle) said there seemed to be a studied avoidance by the lords of creation of the question of female preachers. He held that the peculiar adaptation of women for winning the sympathies of the congregation was far greater than that of men. When men went to the navvies they began to fight them, but when women went to the navvies to do them good they were well received.

Dr. RIGG spoke of the value of female service in the Salvation Army.

The Rev. R. FENWICK, Primitive Methodist, said that there was a large class of women who helped them much in their work by their hospitality, and by aiding them in raising funds in all their difficulties. They had put too much upon women in the way of bazaar work, and had given them too little credit for it.

The Rev. T. M'CULLAGH (Wesleyan, English) said that the late Bishop Selwyn had said that when he saw women hard at work for bazaars, it reminded him of the savages in New Zealand, who made the women work. He believed the women of the Church of England were doing more house-to-house visitation than the Methodist women, though to some extent it might be the fault of the ministers in not organising such visitations.

The Hon. G. W. FROST (Methodist Episcopal Church) said that there was one woman in America who was leading very many souls to Christ, and if women had the talent to preach, why should they not use their power?

**SWIMMING CLUB FOR LADIES IN SOUTH LONDON.**—The executive of the South-east London Swimming Club have taken the initiative in promoting a Swimming Club for Ladies in South London. The head-quarters of the Club are at the Victoria Baths, St. Martin's Road, Peckham, which have hitherto been restricted to the use of men and boys, amongst whom—especially Board School children—the Club has done much to spread a knowledge and love of the art of natation, by giving yearly prizes to be swum for. It was lately

suggested by one or two leading inhabitants of Peckham that the bath might be utilised for women, and the Committee of the Club took up the idea. A well-attended public meeting was held, at which Miss Muller a member of the London School Board (Lambeth Division) delivered an address, and the movement spread so rapidly that already over forty ladies have become members, and arrangements have been made by which the bath will be devoted to their use during a large portion of Wednesday in each week.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY FUND. On September 3rd, street collections in aid of the London hospitals and dispensaries were made throughout the metropolis. The operations commenced in the morning at nine o'clock, when about 750 ladies, who had undertaken the duty, were posted each with a collecting box at the corner of prominent thoroughfares. These ladies were provided with tables and chairs, and each wore a medal indicating the charitable mission undertaken. Chairs and tables were lent by direction of the Prince and Princess of Wales from Marlborough House, by the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, from Clarence House, by the Duke of Wellington, and other noblemen and gentlemen for the West End stations, and by the Lord Mayor and many of the prominent merchants and bankers. The Hon. Mrs. Clay presided at a table at the corner of the Mansion House, the Hon. Mrs. Ellis at the Peabody statue, Miss Florence Murphy at the statue in front of the Royal Exchange, and it was stated that other ladies of distinction had stations assigned to them at the General Post Office and other public buildings and the railway stations, both inside and out, by permission of the directors of the various companies. During the evening, in the more crowded thoroughfares and in the vicinity of the theatres, the ladies were either assisted or entirely relieved from their onerous duties by male members of the organization.

#### THE BELGIAN TRAFFIC.

The Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to inquire into the state of the law relative to the protection of young girls from artifices to induce

them to lead a corrupt life, and into the means for amending the same, made their report as follows: "That the Committee have met several times, and considered the subject matter referred to them, and have examined several witnesses in relation thereto, and looking to the advanced period of the Session, and to the necessity for a much fuller and more prolonged consideration of matters referred to them than can take place in the present Session, think it desirable to report to the House the evidence, so far as it has already been taken. They have also directed the minutes of proceedings to be laid before your lordships."

#### WOMEN IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

An open competitive examination for forty female clerkships in the Receiver and Accountant General's Office and the Savings Bank, the number of vacancies likely to occur within the next six months, was held in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, on September 2nd. Candidates were required to satisfy the Civil Service Commissions that their age on the first day of examination was not less than eighteen, nor more than twenty, that they were unmarried or widows, and were duly qualified in respect of character.

In the Treasury Department of the United States Government there are 1,283 female clerks.

*Truth* of August 25rd has the following paragraph upon women clerks.

I have often heard people argue as to whether male or female clerks in post-offices worked the better. Let anyone go on business—ask for a post-office order, or request to know how many stamps must be put on a book or heavy letter—first to the Charing Cross office, which is served exclusively by the rougher sex, and afterwards to the office at Piccadilly circus, or the one at the bottom of St. James's Street, where all the clerks are females. Having tried both, I am much mistaken if the verdict will not be in favour of the ladies. The men treat you as if you were their servants; the women as if they were servants of the public. \* \* \*

In America women are engaged as clerks in the public offices, and in France they are usually employed to manage the accounts in shops. No one can assert that a woman would be a worse clerk than a man. It is antiquated nonsense to suppose that a girl in an office where men are employed is a defenceless lamb amid a troupe of wolves. She can take very good care of herself. But those who would not have male and female clerks in the same office ought to be logical.

Women pay taxes as well as men. They have a right to their full share of public employment. If, then, the two sexes are to be separated, a certain number of public offices ought to be given over to women, and men should be excluded from them.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**WOMEN SCULPTORS.**—An order for a bas-relief bust of the late Dean Stanley has been given by Her Majesty to Miss Grant, the Dean's niece. The Queen has also commissioned Miss Chaplin, whose models of animals in terra cotta have attracted favourable attention both from artists and the public, to execute a portrait of one of her colliers. Miss Chaplin had the honour of submitting some sketches in clay to the Queen at Osborne lately, from which her Majesty selected two, which are to be carried out by Miss Chaplin.

**ASSISTANT ASTRONOMER.**—It is announced that Miss Pogson who, for some years, has discharged with great ability the duties of Assistant Astronomer to the Government of Madras, has been appointed Meteorological Reporter to that Government.

**CONVALESCENT HOME.**—The *Lancet* says:—"The Princess Frederica is about to establish a convalescent home for poor women after childbirth in the neighbourhood of Hampton Court. All who have been engaged in Midwifery practice must have long felt the want of such an institution, and we heartily wish the realisation of the Princess's beneficent intention. Such a home will prove of inestimable value, by giving the rest and food and pure air which so many women confined in lying-in hospitals or at their own homes cannot get. In our lying-in hospitals the patients have all their wants supplied while in the institution, but at the end of a fortnight after labour they are sent home, and have to undertake domestic duties before their strength is thoroughly restored; while those who are confined in their own homes frequently lack the rest and quiet so requisite for their well-doing, and even of the necessary food. To such women a fortnight in a home in the country will prove an invaluable boon, by restoring their strength and preventing future suffering.

MISS JANE LEE, the learned daughter of the Arch-

deacon of Dublin, was charged by her old teacher, Professor Benfey, before his death, to English the whole of the great Sanskrit epic, the *Māhabhārata*, 80,000 lines, as only fragments of it had been translated before. Miss Lee has begun her task. She is also to help Professor Atkinson in his "Old Irish Dictionary" for the Royal Irish Academy; and she will probably contribute papers to the New Shakespere and the Browning Societies during the ensuing session.—*Academy*.

LADY BECTIVE has published a pamphlet on the present condition of the wool trade, in which she appeals to the ladies of England to use English woollen fabrics in preference to those of foreign make. Six thousand copies of the pamphlet have been taken by a Committee at Bradford for circulation.

MISS DUTHIE, of Ruthrieston, recently presented a park to Aberdeen, and the first turf was cut last Saturday by the donor, who was assisted by the Earl of Aberdeen. Lord Provost Ellesmont acknowledged on behalf of the city, and Lord Aberdeen on behalf of the county. The park comprises some fifty acres, comprising the estate of Arthur's seat and the adjoining land, and cost about £40,000.

LADY HARRIET M. SCOTT-BENTINCK has given a donation of £2,000 towards the expenses of the University College Hospital.

THE ladies engaged in the practice and study of medicine gave a garden party on the 5th of August in the grounds of the London College of Medicine for Women. It was attended by a large and fashionable company of ladies and gentlemen, many of the more prominent members of the International Medical Congress—especially the French, German and Russian representatives of the profession—being among the guests.

THE residents of Twickenham presented Miss Twining last month with her portrait, painted by Mr. Henry Martin, in recognition of the many philanthropic deeds which have marked a long and useful life, especially the foundation of St. John's Hospital at Twickenham.

LARGE funds are being raised for the higher education of women. There seems to be some need of it—in Liverpool for example, where we read of a young

mother, whose husband was "given to drink," supporting her family by her own labour—the making of match boxes at 2d. a gross, she having to find her own paste and cotton!"—*Herald of Health*.

ALPINE ACCIDENTS.—A writer in the *Times* of Sept. 7th, who styles himself "Common Sense," indignant at the number of accidents lately occurring in the Alps, demands that women should be forbidden in future to climb dangerous mountains. "That a noble pursuit, so clearly suited to the trained athlete, and to him alone, should be persistently invaded by ladies and incapables, who gamble on the chances of a fickle barometer, and the gallant endurance of brave guides, is an abuse which calls for repression not only by the Alpine club, but by every one of common sense." We shall not go wrong by supposing that "Common Sense" would class himself among the "trained athletes" whose "noble pursuits" are not to be interfered with. How he will be able to point out beforehand those gentlemen who are incapables, whose amusements are to be stopped we are at a loss to discover; but he would find it quite easy to prohibit ladies from going. There is no likelihood that silly women as well as silly men will not to the end of time risk their own lives and that of others in pursuit of pleasure, but the letter furnishes another instance of the morbid desire to legislate for women, to fix by law what shall be becoming and proper for them, which besets the masculine mind.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

- "Christmas Holidays at Maythorpe," by Lady Lamb.—*Newman*.
- "Dorothy's Daughters," by Emma Marshall.—*Seeley & Jackson*.
- "Too Red a Dawn," by Mabel Collins.—*Tinsley*.
- "The Prophecy of St. Oran," by Mathilde Blind.—*Newman*.
- "A Pageant, and other Poems," by Christina Rossetti.—*Macmillan*.
- "A Book of Rhyme," by Augusta Webster.—*Macmillan*.
- "One of Three," by Jessie Fothergill.—*Bentley*.
- "Made or Marred," by Jessie Fothergill.—*Bentley*.
- "A Will and a Way," by Lady G. Fullerton.—*Bentley*.
- "Life in Western India," by Mrs. Guthrie.—*Hurst & Blackett*.
- "Rose," by Hon. Mrs. Cradock.—*Chapman & Hall*.
- "Lady Ottoline," by Mrs. Lodge.—*Tinsley*.
- "In Spite of Fate," by Katherine Clive.—*Tinsley*.
- "Among the Sons of Men," by Mrs. T. F. Hughes.—*Tinsley*.

THE UNIVERSITY IN SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH  
WALES.

THE *Sydney Morning Herald*, July 18th, gives a most interesting description of the Annual Commemoration of this year. It will be remembered that this is the first year of study after the University has been thrown open to women, and the Chancellor (Sir William Manning) of course took notice of this event. He said:—

"I now come to what you will certainly regard as the principal event of the year, and as the subject is of much interest, and ought to be fully understood, I will not hesitate to dwell upon it at some length. The event is the full opening of the University to students of your sex, ladies, and the offer to them, if they will accept it, of all its advantages and privileges in complete equality with men. There are some persons, probably, who will think this no more than a tardy act of justice; but those who will fairly call to mind the past histories of Universities, and are acquainted with the language and intentions of our own founders, and with the opinions which have prevailed until very recent times and which linger yet, as to the education befitting women, will feel no surprise that our recognition of equality within the University has been gradual, and that we have only now reached the point of action. Not a few, indeed, will, I believe, consider that the step is premature, if not wrong altogether,—at least in the form we have adopted, of conjoint instruction. I confess that even to myself, though always alive to the capacity and claims of the sex for receiving as high an education as men, the conviction has only recently come quite home that this University ought to admit women into full participation, in classes with men, in all its teachings and honours, and that there existed no practicable obstacle in our case which we could not overcome if resolute to do so. In my address of 1878, the subject was glanced at only sufficiently to show that it was not out of sight. In 1879, I dwelt on it at more length, and recognized the rights of the sex, and the advantages which University teaching, partial if not complete, might bring to them; and I then took upon

myself (from a general knowledge of the sentiments of members) to declare that 'The Senate, on being satisfied that there was an earnest demand for University education to women, would do its best to meet that demand more or less approximately.' But doubts were expressed by me whether female students could be admitted to the ordinary lectures together with young men; and preference was avowed for a separate ladies' college, under the University's wing, as at Oxford and Cambridge. I also suggested that the question might stand over till our school of science should have been enlarged by the addition of branches of study to which ladies would probably be most prone; and also until some definite information should have been obtained as to the numbers likely to avail themselves of such opportunities as the Senate might offer. Nothing was then said as to degrees, though they were involved in the proposal for an affiliated college. In my address of 1880 the subject was not touched upon, partly because of the presence of other very weighty matter, such as the bequest of Mr. Challis, and partly because our idea then was to wait and see whether a Ladies' College might not be set on foot (which, indeed, I still think most desirable), and whether a sufficient number of female students were likely to desire admission. But more recently I came, with others, to the final conclusion that the right course was to settle and declare the principle of women's right to equality within the University, and that it would be better to open its portals at once so that the sex might plainly see their way to enter whenever they should be disposed to climb up to it by the necessary paths of preparation, rather than that the Senate should wait till they come to our gates knocking for admission. This view of our duty (though earlier spoken of) was first brought under definite discussion at a Senate meeting in last March, and on the 6th of the following month, the Senate formally and unanimously resolved as follows:—'1. That subject to such regulations as the Senate may make, women shall henceforward be admitted to matriculation and instruction in the University, and to annual examinations, and examination for



degrees, and shall be entitled to receive degrees equivalent to those granted to male students. 2. That it be referred to the Board of Studies to report to the Senate on the subject of the arrangements and regulations necessary for carrying out the above.' On the 27th of the same month the Board of Studies recommended:— 'That female students should be admitted to the same lectures as male students, it being the opinion of the Board that no inconvenience would arise from the joint attendance of students of both sexes, and that there would be no difficulty in providing that the lectures delivered under the circumstances should contain nothing of a nature to shock female delicacy.' In the latter part of this report, the Professors have pledged themselves to overcome, by the elimination of offensive passages, the objection often and most properly advanced to the attendance of mixed classes at lectures on the works of certain eminent writers of antiquity. On the 4th of May the report was adopted; and on the 1st of June the Senate arranged for the erection of a temporary building for use as a ladies' study and retiring room, and decided that female students should be admissible at once, and should be invited to present themselves at the then approaching examinations for matriculation. Notice was accordingly given, but the time was unavoidably too short, and consequently no candidates appeared. This immediate failure was also anticipated; but the Senate nevertheless determined in this decisive way to put its seal to the resolutions, and deliver them over to the public as accomplished facts. In consequence of the insufficiency of the first notice, special consideration will be given to any later applications during the Academic year 1881-2; after which, both sexes will have to take the same course. Meanwhile the lectures will be open to female students in anticipation of matriculation, upon the usual conditions. Whilst thus reporting what the Senate has done, I am bound to add that although there can be no question as to its authority to carry out its resolutions up to the point of granting degrees, there does exist some doubt whether in that respect, the masculine of our Incorporating

Statute and Charter can be interpreted so as to include women. It is consequently intended to invite Parliament to pass an Amending Act to remove the doubt; and as it may be assumed that such an Act will be passed without difficulty, and long before any female student can have gone through the three years' course which must precede degrees, the existing difficulty need be no impediment to earlier entrance on that course. The Senate has now discharged what it has come to regard as its duty, and it only rests with the sex to render the new resolutions living and operative, by preparing for and entering the University. We trust soon to see some ladies upon the roll of regular students, and engaged in a not unequal rivalry with the sex which has hitherto enjoyed exclusive possession of the privileges here offered—whilst for such as will not undergo the full course for a degree, but are anxious to follow part of it, it will be arranged that they may attend such selected lectures as they may desire. Whatever the University can in reason do to elevate woman educationally, it freely offers. I will now, my lord, and ladies and gentlemen, trouble you no further, but will beg you to accept the thanks of the University and Senate for the great encouragement which you have given us by your presence and attention to our proceedings." The Fairfax prize of £20 for female candidates in the senior examinations was awarded to Eliza Marion Holt, and that of £10 in the junior examination to Marion O'Brien.

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

A YOUNG Russian lady, Mdle. Nadine Skortzow, who formerly sustained a brilliant examination for her doctor's diploma before the Medical Faculty, has been admitted a member of the Medico-Physiological Society of Paris. She is the author of some remarkable works on nervous maladies.

AMONG the persons who lately received the decoration of the *palmes académiques* from M. Jules Ferry, the French Minister of Public Instruction, were several women. These included Madame de Ujfalvy, who accompanied her husband on his mission through Cen-

tral Asia, and Madame Foulque de Villaret, in recognition of her work on archæology.

SEVERAL young ladies were candidates for the diploma of *bachelierè-es-sciences* at the recent examinations at the Sorbonne; one only passed. In the Faculty of Letters two girls were examined and both passed. One of them is already a *bachelierè-es-sciences* and has commenced her medical studies.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.—An examination with the view of admitting women candidates to the postal and telegraphic departments takes place this month. More than 500 candidates are already inscribed.

THE National Society *d'encouragement au Bien* has given prizes this year to many ladies; Mdlle. Amelie Gex, of Chamberg, and Mdme. Ed. Lenoir for their admirable poetry; Mdme. Stella Blandy for her *Procès de l'Absent*; also Mdme. Lella Pichard, Mdme. Louise Gerald, Mdme. Aymé Cecil, Mdme. Lemaitre, of Rouen, Mdme. Rosa Dubois, Mdme. Carlo Serena, and Mdlle. Leonie Duplais. The Society has also voted four gold medals, viz.: (1) Mdme. Gabrielle Mery, of the congregation at St. Marthe at Loches, for services rendered in the hospitals of Paris; she has performed 60,000 vaccinations, and has already received the medals of the Academy of Medicine and the Academy of Hygiene. (2) Mdlle. Fanny de Morineau, at Blaye, the foundress, at her own expense, of a hospital for old people. (3) Mdlle. Madeleine Pauly, a cook at Paris, who took charge of six orphan children, and Mdme. A. Thereau (sister Leopold) for her good management of the penitentiary colony of Mas d'Elvi, at Matelas, Haute Vienne.

THE Catholic Church has at all times shown itself favourable to the practice of medicine by women. The *Semaine Religieuse* of Montpellier some time ago thus registered the names of holy women who have been celebrated for their knowledge of medicine:—

"Saint Theodota, physician of the martyrs, mother of St. Procopius, the martyr, who herself died courageously in the midst of the most cruel torments.

"Saint Nicerata of Constantinople, skillful in medicine, illustrious for her piety and Christian charity. She cured the great St. Chrysostom.

"Saint Hildegard, clever in medicine, according to the testimony of Genebradus, renowned for her apparitions and miraculous cures.

"Saint Frances, a Roman, very skilful in medicine, illustrious for possessing a remedy efficacious in many diseases, glorious for the great number of her miracles, at Rome and through all Italy, raised to the rank of saints by Paul V.

"Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, a widow.

"Saint Jutta.

"Saint Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal."

#### ITALY.

NAPLES.—*La Donna* says that a new opera in three acts, called "*La Rosa di Perona*," composed by a widow lady, Teresa Guidi Lionetti, has been put on the stage in Naples. The first act is said to please, the second to astonish, the third to make the hearer en-

thusiastic. Persistent and warm applause greeted the end, and the composer, as well as Professor Guidi—author of the words, were repeatedly called for. This is another proof of the increasing talent shown by women for music, now that a better system of instruction is attainable by them.

THE grand medal for singing and also the certificate of honour of the Conservatorio of Milan, have been conferred on Miss Nettie Mertens, a young English lady. This is the first time the prize has been conferred on a foreigner since the Conservatorio has been established.

#### SWITZERLAND.

Mdlle. Maria Nussbaum, of Campagni Richemont near Vevey, Switzerland, has received a prize of £20 for each of the two specimens she exhibited in Messrs. Hildesheimer & Co.'s competition for Christmas and New Year cards. Mdlle. Nussbaum is the daughter of Professor Charles Nussbaum, for some years Principal of the College of Vevey, and has devoted considerable study to botanical subjects for watercolours; her work has often attracted the notice of art patrons on the Continent.

#### HOLLAND.

Miss Jacoba de Graaff, of Rotterdam, whose "Primula Veris" was admired at the late Exhibition of Living Masters at the Hague, is engaged on a picture of English life for exhibition in this country.

#### SWEDEN.

The *Hausfrauen Zeitung* gives the following account of the works of Ulrica Lundström, a Swedish authoress. "Next to Marie Schwartz, Camilla Collet, and Magdalena Thoresen, Ulrica Landström is the most powerful, and widest read of Swedish and Norwegian authoresses. This is owing on the one hand to her rich imagination and power of lively representation, and on the other to her connection with the Stockholm press and theatre. Ulrica Landström's career as a writer of romances, dramatic poems and pamphlets, falls within the last fourteen years, and during this period she has succeeded in correcting her original deficiencies and strengthening her weak points. The daughter of Pastor Tengbom, of West Gothland, she was born in 1841, and already at the age of 21 was a contributor to journals under the name of "Mattis." Her first important work, "The Story of Daglander," appeared in 1867, and was followed the ensuing year by two others, "Baronesse Delvi," and "Skäl och Kärna" (Shell and Kernel). In 1869 she became connected with the three chief organs of the Swedish press, *Afton bladet*, *Dagligt Allehanda*, and *Ny illustrerad Tidning*. For the first she wrote "Doctor Fabian," and for the last "En Maaleres Minnen" (a painter's recollections). In *Dagligt Allehanda* a number of biographical sketches appeared from her pen, under the title "Dalin and his Contemporaries." Two of her dramatic works, "Christina Gyllenstjerna," and "Grim Viking," were performed in 1871 and 1872 at the Royal and Dramatic Theatre at Stockholm, and won great approval. Almost at the same time appeared the stories "Jacob Sten's Berättelser" (Jacob Sten's Advice), and "För Hundrede Aar Sedan" (A Hundred Years Ago). Her more recent works are "Konning och Prälat" (King and Prelate), "Albjörn,"

a novel, and "Heilbornske Papperen." Ulrica Tengbom was married in 1877 to the tax-surveyor Lundström, known in Sweden as an author and economist. We are not aware if she has published anything since.

## GREECE.

Miss Gennadios, the only Greek lady who has devoted herself to sculpture, has received from the Prime minister of Greece a commission to execute a bust of Canning.

## AMERICA.

Belva A. Lockwood, one of the most capable of the women-lawyers of America, lately applied for the Brazilian mission in a letter of considerable length to the President. Mrs. Lockwood said that she was fitted for the place, being a native of New York, and not being identified with either of the factions of that State. She understands French, knows a little of Spanish, and is familiar with the consular regulations. A strong card in her favour is the fact that the Emperor and Empress of Brazil are old time friends. Mrs. Lockwood says that as no woman has ever been sent abroad to represent the interests of the country, although one half the population consists of the female sex, she ought to have the place.

## BURMAH.

NEW MISSIONARY STATION.—Dr. F. S. Smith (author of the well-known "America") now in Burmah, on a visit to a son who is a missionary there, writes to the *Watchman*, in a recent letter, thus:—"Under the lead of Miss Lawrence, aided by native preachers, a new station has been begun many miles away at Thatone, the earliest shrine of Buddhism in this province, and one of the oldest, if not the oldest in Burmah. It is very brave in this Christian woman to go out into the wilderness of heathenism and plant a new centre of Gospel influence."

## INDIA.

Speaking recently on the state of education in Madras, the new Director of Public Instruction dwelt on the backward condition of female education in that presidency. According to the return for the year 1879-80, the number of girls attending schools was 29,282, while the number of boys was 239,097, or one girl to eight boys. Hitherto the work of female education had devolved mostly on the missionary societies, and he urged that the time had come when the State might to a great extent, leave the education of the male portion of the population to private, local, and municipal agencies, and undertake the work of female education in a more extended and efficient manner. He regretted that the opinions held by many educated natives on this matter were not encouraging.

CALICUT.—The *Homeward Mail* reports that there is on foot a scheme to provide a good club for ladies in that town. It is proposed to build on the beach, a little north of the gentlemen's club, a room to serve the double purpose of reading room and library, and of a meeting room for friendly intercourse for the ladies. This will be a particular advantage in Calicut, where for six months in the year there is so much rain that open air parties are almost impossible.

THE National Mahomedan Association intend to memorialise the

Government of India against the provisions of the C.P. Code Act X. of 1877, under the authority of which *purdanasheen* (Hindoo ladies who live in seclusion) can be made to appear in the courts as witnesses, complainants, or defendants. The British Indian Association will co-operate with them in their efforts to get the law altered. The subject has been lately much discussed in the Calcutta papers, owing to the arrest of a Hindoo lady for debt.

A WRITER in the *Journal of the National Indian Association* says: "Testimony differs as to the amount of elementary education prevailing among Indian ladies, but there is little doubt that a very large proportion of the women of the higher classes cannot even read and write. Some volunteer efforts there are such as the Zenana societies, but these cannot penetrate everywhere, and we wish that our Association had means in proportion to its good will, as it might with its existing machinery, do a good deal towards female secular education of the intellectual kind. But besides books, there are other kinds of education, and we think that in the present state of Indian education, in such parts of it at least as are influenced by English culture, something which for want of a better word, we must call domestic education, might be of real value. The Indian social progress we hope for is something special to the country and the people—not a slavish imitation of what exists in France, or Germany, or England, but something which taking its stand on what exists in India should seek to improve that. If by leading a little, instead of following blindly, Indian ladies would mould the life around them, very much would be gained; and we think the best hope of such union would be in union—union among the ladies themselves."

LADY RIPON has lately become Patroness of the Calcutta Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

#### AUSTRALIA.

The *Melbourne Argus*, April 27th, had an excellent letter on the employment of women, which we reprint:—

"Sir,—As your leading columns revert once more to the employment of women in remunerative occupations, I should like to add a few words on their behalf, especially as this social question is one continually cropping up, and ought, in fairness to women, to receive the serious consideration of the other sex. Woman is refused a voice in the decision of her fate, and yet men do not seek to make the struggle easier for her, although they acknowledge that it is their duty to protect her, and that in the existing social state of things women are often forced to earn their own bread, and that through greater hardships than young men endure—greater for this reason, that many—I do not say all men—will try to jostle a woman out of the working arena, and put difficulties in her way which would never befall a man. Moreover, she has other troubles to contend with. Take the profession of letters. Here in Melbourne a man has only to go for half-an-hour to the club, and he may collect any amount of information as to passing events, and the latest in literature and art. This all men allow. Well, a woman has no such resources; she often has hard work in collecting the most trifling crumbs of news about

things that do not of necessity fall under her daily notice, and so it is with many another of her business perplexities.

It is perfectly just, of course, that women who have had no training, and who have not the energy to acquire knowledge and experience, should go to the wall, but why in the name of all logic and common sense should a man be paid a larger salary for the same work equally well done, and for the reason, forsooth, that he "expects to have a home and family to maintain." How unreasonable this is of the very ones who are so logical on their own behalf. And as for the plea of expecting to have a wife to support, I fear it is but an excuse to pander to selfishness, for how many men never marry. As Michelet wrote—"Men in these days do not care to marry. They say they earn too little; but still they deprive themselves of nothing, and gain four and five times as much as women," who often and often are the breadwinners of a family, of aged parents, of orphan brothers and sisters, and finally of their husbands and children. Yet, notwithstanding this, economy is to be the test of a woman's deserts for employment. She is to spend as much money as men on her training; she is to yield the brightest and best of her intellect and labour, and then she is to receive the leavings of what all self-respecting men decline. A famous dentist at home informed me that the leading Berlin dentist was a woman, and I have many good authorities for saying that where women have started on equal terms with men as to training, &c., they have come off with flying colours.

All such women ask is fairness without favour; to be allowed a place which never is denied to man, and that men and women both should stand and rise on merit and results, quite apart from sex, and equal merit gain an equal prize.

Certain it is for either sex that if they want to rise they must not rest content to struggle on as simple clerks. Clerks have often risen to be famous, great, and wealthy, but it was always hard, hard work, and invincible energy, and the seizing of every opportunity that did it. The lazy and indifferent must ever keep amongst the struggling band of mediocrities.

Yours, &c.,

C. COCKBURN CAMPBELL.

April 27.

THE Married Women's Property Laws appear to give as much trouble in Victoria as they do here. On June 16th, at the sittings in Equity in the New Court House, the case being the will of Benjamin Woodhead. Mr. Goldsmith moved for probate of the will of the testator to be granted to E. Fowler, a married woman, the sole executrix under the will. The consent of her husband to her obtaining probate had not been given, but it was contended that as all the testator's property had been left to her, she was entitled to probate without such consent, as the Married Women's Property Act made her liable to be sued in respect of her separate property.

His Honour said that on the materials then before him, he would not dispense with the consent of the husband.

THE  
ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.  
(NEW SERIES.)

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No. CII.—OCTOBER 15TH, 1881.

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ART. I.—THE LAW OF SCOTLAND WITH REGARD TO THE PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

*(Continued from page 391.)*

ANOTHER passage of Lord Fraser's evidence is so singularly illustrative of that incapacity to see the thing as others see it, which is at the root of all unjust or class legislation, and is so instructive in other ways, that we quote it in full. Mr. Anderson is the questioner.

(455) "Did I understand you to say that constituting separate estate in the wife would conduce to make her careless of her conduct in regard to adultery?"

"I say it would conduce to promote divorces, especially divorces for desertion. It would operate in two ways. I can understand a wife having a separate estate with a nagging husband, a husband whom she did not love, under such circumstances, taking advantage of the law of divorce when otherwise she would not."

(456) "That is to say, she would commit adultery for the purpose?"

"No, not so; I will put it thus: many a woman forgives a conjugal fault, and will not bring an action of divorce, and I do believe that though it is the law of Scotland that you can get a divorce for simple adultery, no woman would bring an action of divorce for simple adultery. Before doing it she requires that her husband shall be cruel to her children, or persists in going



on with his intercourse with his paramour; under such circumstances, if she had a separate estate, she would be more ready to bring an action of divorce. That is one way in which possession of separate estate would operate in making a woman think of getting rid of her husband by divorce. But another consequence might reasonably be anticipated. If a couple live together unhappily, the wife, having her separate estate, is tempted thereby to withdraw from her husband's society, and take a house of her own, leaving him the privilege of divorcing her, for desertion, at the end of four years; she thus gets rid of a hateful marriage, and acquires freedom to try her luck again."

(457) "As regards divorce, you have described the punishment upon the husband who has committed adultery, in cases where there is an ante-nuptial contract, but in the event of there being no ante-nuptial contract, and his having got property through his wife, and he commits adultery, and she divorces him, what is his position—has he to pay it back?"

"No."

(458) "He takes it all?"

"Yes, all the personal property."

(459) "What would become of the heritable property—would he have the right to the rents of it?"

"No, all he has got he keeps, but he gets no more."

(460) "Might I also suggest that your opinion would be that the present state of the law conduces to make the husband careless upon matters of adultery?"

"No, I think not."

The double code of sexual morals—which permits all license to men, and punishes every presumed error, nay, even the innocent and helpless suffering of wrong, in a woman, has been too often and too severely denounced by women themselves as a chief cause of the gravest evils that afflict society, to need further condemnation in these pages. It is here only necessary to point out that, whereas in England the law itself, as flagrantly shown in the unjust provisions of the Divorce Act, which grant full divorce to a man for the adultery of a wife, coupling this with the punishment to her of the denial of access to her children, plainly and directly

teaches and upholds this double code, and denies the right of divorce to a wife for her husband's adultery. In Scotland the law on this point sets up a just and equal standard, but counteracts this teaching by other and indirect methods, and so effectual is this indirect teaching, that it perverts even the sound sense and right feeling, clearly shown in so many other directions, of one of the judges of the land, so that he can commend (we would fain hope not deliberately) the unjust state of the law as to the property of wives, because it fosters and sustains a worse and deeper injustice, by compelling a woman to endure the bonds of a "hateful marriage," because to seek freedom therefrom would be to leave herself penniless.

But it would be unjust to attribute the views of which we have spoken to the other witnesses who appeared before the Committee, or to the members of the Committee itself; on the contrary, much generosity towards women was displayed, and a very earnest effort made after justice. Where both the witnesses and the Committee chiefly fall short, is in their failure to recognize that "protection" is too often but a pseudonym for injustice, and further, in that legal conservatism which leads them to accept what has been already done as good, and to regard it as final. The whole aim and purpose of the lawyers who sought to amend the law, was to put the wife who marries without a marriage contract in the same advantageous position as the wife who, by means of a contract, had evaded the harshness of the law. The existing form of marriage by contracts in Scotland was assumed to be perfect, and all efforts were bent to the bringing the actual law into harmony with practice, as shown by these contracts. To this perfectly intelligible attitude of mind, and to the limitations of view consequent upon it, the defects which mar and restrict the great advantages conferred by the Act of last session must be attributed.

The whole of the evidence will well repay attentive perusal, especially that of Mr. Balfour and Lord Fraser, representing opposite, if not antagonistic points of view.

The Select Committee re-drafted the Bill very much in accordance with the evidence before them, avoiding,

however, the extreme views of Lord Fraser, and reported the Bill, as amended, to the House on the 29th of March.

Mr. Anderson, to whose patience, energy, and skill no praise is adequate, succeeded, in spite of the unprecedented difficulties of the session, in carrying the Bill through its subsequent stages with little delay. It was read a third time on April 29th, and went up to the House of Lords, where it was read a second time on the 27th of May. Important amendments, in the direction advocated in these pages in May last, were introduced by the Lord Chancellor, who took charge of the Bill in the House of Lords, in Committee on the 14th of June, and other amendments by Lord Watson at the stage of Report, June 21st. The Bill received the Royal Assent on the 18th of July, and came into operation at once, so that the property of all women married since that date to Scotch husbands, is directly affected by the action of the new law.

To what, then, does it actually amount? What has it done for women, and what has it omitted to do? Broadly speaking, it has, as was suggested before, put every woman married to a Scotchman since the 18th of last July, and every woman who shall henceforth so marry, in substantially the same position with regard to her property, as though this had been protected by a carefully drawn contract of marriage.

Section I. reserves to the wife herself all her moveable or personal estate, whether acquired before or during the marriage, so that it no longer, or any portion of it, passes to the husband by the fact of marriage. All income derived by the wife from her personal estate is, consequently, made hers, and payable to her; her order, henceforth, and not her husband's, being sufficient authority, and her receipt sufficient discharge for the payment. But the husband's right of administration is so far retained, that the wife may not anticipate her income, or deal with the principal of the estate without her husband's consent. It is further enacted that no such estate of the wife's shall be liable for the husband's debts, provided it is so invested, placed, or secured as to be clearly distinguishable from the property of the

husband—such precaution not, however, being made essential in the case of those “corporeal moveables,” household furniture and the like, as are usually possessed without a written title. Money lent by the wife to the husband, or allowed by her to become mixed with his funds, will, in case of the husband's bankruptcy, be treated as part of his estate, and the wife can only recover any portion thereof after the claims of other creditors for actual value received have been satisfied.

Section 2 gives to the wife the right to the *rents* and *produce* of her real property, which will henceforth be payable to the wife and not to the husband.

Sections 3 and 4 are retrospective, applying to marriages which took place before the passing of the Act.

Under Section 3 a wife is put into the same position with regard to property—the right to which accrues to her after the passing of the Act, as though she had been married after the passing of the Act, except in cases where the husband had, before the 13th of July last, made by irrevocable deed, reasonable provision for his wife in the event of her being the survivor.

Section 4 enables persons married before the passing of the Act, by mutual deed, duly registered and publicly notified, to put themselves under the provisions of the Act, provided that no such deed shall take effect against debts or obligations of the husband contracted before the date of the registration and advertisement of the deed.

A wife whose husband has deserted her, or who is living apart from him with his consent, is enabled, under Section 5, by an application to the Sheriffs' Court or Court of Session, to deal with the body of her estate without her husband's intervention.

Sections 6 and 7 reserve to the husband and children the right to the same share in the personal estate of a deceased wife and mother, which, under the law of Scotland, the widow and children have in the personal estate of the deceased father and husband. These rights, explained in an earlier part of this paper, will reserve to a childless husband one-half, and to a husband with children one-third, of the wife's personal

estate, the children in the latter case taking another third, the wife being free to dispose by will, as she pleases, of the rest of the property.

The Act makes no change in the law as to courtesy and *terce*, nor in the law as to contracts made before or during marriage between married persons, nor in the law as to gifts between married persons, nor in the law as to a wife's freedom from personal arrest for debt.

Moreover, all rights conferred upon married women by the Act of 1877 are expressly reserved, so that a wife may deal with her earnings, and with any result of those earnings, in perfect freedom—may use them or give them away in her lifetime, or dispose of them by will, subject to no restriction whatever.

It will be seen at once that a very considerable step in advance has been made, although the present Act has not done everything which was contemplated by Mr. Anderson himself, or the promoters of his original Bill.

The rights of married women in Scotland to their own property have been extended by law as far as it has hitherto been usual to extend them, by the ordinary contract of marriage, and power has been given to persons previously married, to put the wife's property under the protection of the new law.

There are various minor defects in the measure, into which it is not now proposed to enter (more particularly the provisions as to domicile, which may lead to unexpected difficulties), since these are of a nature to compel their own correction in course of time, now that the one clear principle of a woman's right to her own property, notwithstanding her marriage, has been fully and fairly admitted.

The one great defect of the measure, from a woman's point of view, is the reservation of the husband's right of administration over the body of the wife's personal property, so that she cannot make or change an investment, buy or sell, except out of her annual income, or her earnings, without her husband's consent. It is quite true that in this reservation the lawyers who prepared the Act, as it now stands, have followed the usual practice of marriage contracts in Scotland, to

which there is nothing correspondent in the practice of English marriage settlements. An English wife, possessed of separate property, holds it with all its incidents of ownership and control, nor have Englishwomen given proof of that "imprudence" in parting with property, or of that susceptibility to "various influences of affection and fear,"\* inducing the rash disposal of property, of which Scotch lawyers seem somewhat too ready to accuse Scotchwomen.

The child's appeal, "Is it my very own, to do as I like with?" is the human feeling after all, in women as well as in men, nor can it be supposed that the full educating effect of the responsibilities of property can be attained, unless those responsibilities are exercised in perfect freedom. If husband and wife are on good terms, and the wife desires her husband's advice, nothing is more easy than to ask for it. If they are not on good terms, or the wife discards the husband's intervention (as she may well do when he is only foolish, and foolish men *are* to be found) it is wrong and unjust to leave the wife subject to the husband's coercion or restraint.

It may be safely predicted, however, that the "new departure" in Scotch contracts of marriage, will take the form of the entire abolition of the husband's right of administration, and it is equally safe to predict that Scotchwomen will, under those conditions of freedom, develop a judgment, a wise economy, and an administrative faculty, for which Scotchmen, or at least Scotch lawyers, fail at present to give them credit. The change in the social practice will prepare the way for the further legislative change. Nor will this progress be impeded by the passing into law of the larger English measure to amend the law with regard to the property of married women, which has been lost for the year by an unscrupulous abuse of the forms of the House, made effective by the unprecedented difficulties of the session, but which will be re-introduced as early as possible next year.

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\* See pp. 6 and 24 of "Evidence taken before the Select Committee.

Meanwhile, the thanks of all women are due to those who have laboured hard to secure this large instalment of justice—first to Mr. Anderson, who, session after session, undeterred by difficulties and delay, has energetically pressed this amendment of the law; but also to the late Lord Advocate, Mr. John M'Laren, and the Lord Chancellor, without whose active help there would either have been no Act at all, or a far less satisfactory Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act.

*Congleton.*

E. C. WOLSTENHOLME ELMY.

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## ART. II.—A FEW HINTS TO WOMEN ADOPTING WOOD ENGRAVING AS A PROFESSION.

WOOD ENGRAVING, or the cutting of pictures on blocks of wood, though of almost older date than printing, may be said to be only now advancing towards the development of which it is capable in the way of book illustration. Within this century especially it has made rapid progress, and a great deal has been done for the improvement of the art. We would like any of our readers to compare the coarse woodcuts of the 18th century with the soft tints and delicate texture of the illustrations in *Scribner's* popular and well-known magazine. But much remains yet to be done for the advancement of wood engraving, especially on this side of the Atlantic, for in the production of woodcuts we have let the Americans get before us. There are various reasons for this; for one thing engravers are better paid there, but another reason may be that in the United States women are admitted into the profession on the same equal terms as men, and thus there is twice the amount of material to draw upon for good engravers; whereas in this country engraving has hitherto been a monopoly in the hands of one sex only. But now that it is possible for women to obtain proper professional training as engravers, we hope that many ladies who

possess taste and steady perseverance will turn their thoughts in this direction. We say designedly "steady perseverance," for it is not an employment that can be learnt in a few months, it requires hard work and some years training to make a good engraver. We have known ladies bring their daughters to learn wood engraving, expecting that they would begin to earn a competency at the end of a few months, and on finding that it would be years before they could attain that object, take their departure again. We suspect Miss Yonge's "Clever Woman of the Family," and Jean Ingelow's "Off the Skelligs," have done something to foster this delusion, and the sooner it is exposed the better.

Educated women seem to be specially adapted from their early training to form good engravers; as they have been accustomed from childhood to use hand and eye in fancy work, drawing and other things that require neat-handedness. Let them show therefore what can be done by their sex for the development of the art; and show what work the graver is capable of producing when used with freedom and delicacy. We would have them make it their endeavour to introduce a higher style of art and break through the monotony, the commonplaceness, that characterises the engravings in our illustrated books and magazines. Engravers are apt to get into a groove, and cut their blocks always in the same style, skies in one way, water in another, without reference to the character of the original designs, and pencil and charcoal sketches are often turned out identical. Apprentices follow their masters, and the result is a sameness in all our illustrations; the drawings of different artists, each of which had a character of its own, being reduced to the same dead level, as if they had all been drawn by the same hand. Engravers ought to bring out the "individuality" of the sketch, picture, or drawing they are cutting, to seize the colour, texture, spirit, and in fact all the peculiarities of the original and reproduce them in their own work. Now women must make it their aim to do this, and, breaking through the monotony that characterises our English woodcuts, improve, develop, raise the art, till engraving on wood takes its place among the



fine arts alongside of painting and sculpture. It is this faithfulness to the original that has in a great measure led to the superiority of American engravers, whose work will be seen at its best in the pages of *Scribner's Magazine*. In a letter from one of the editors of the magazine the writer says, referring to this point, "we endeavour to give every phase of art which is good a hearing, through the medium of the best wood engraving procurable—by the best I mean that which adheres the closest to the original in form, colour, and sentiment." Certainly American woodcuts have not yet been equalled by any we have been able to produce in this country, not, we believe because we have not the native talent, but because the attempt has never been made to break through the commonplaceness of our style, and both artists and engravers hold themselves too much aloof from each other. The artist complains that the engraver spoils his design in the cutting, the engraver thinks the artist very hard to please, they do not work together in the best way to ensure success.

I trust soon to see a large number of educated women enter the profession, and that they will soon rival their American sisters in the excellence and beauty of their work. To them I would say, Do not be discouraged if you should hear it said, as perhaps you may, "women have not the talent to produce such work;" for a good part of the staff of engravers employed on *Scribner's Magazine* are women, and the woodcuts in that magazine are universally admired, and are, we believe, considered the best that the United States produces. The art editor of *Scribner* in the letter above quoted, speaking of the employment of women as wood engravers continues: "A fact which you might use in your advocacy of the right of women to earn their living by means of wood engraving—is, that we have some eight or nine ladies constantly working for our magazine, and that one of these we entrust with the most subtle of our work." I hope this "fact" will encourage women to persevere, and endeavour to become first-class engravers. But in order to become this I must remind you that it is necessary to work steadily and constantly, remembering that you are in training for a

profession, and not learning an easy employment to fill up vacant time. Do not, however, make the mistake of working too hard the first few months, begin with a few hours a day and gradually increase, in six or nine months you may be working your fifty-two hours a week (an engraver's week), but if you plunge *at once* into nine hours a day (Saturday six hours) you will probably find it too much for you. Never take a long holiday while you are learning, (of course I am not speaking of cases of illness); if you were to leave off work for two or three months together it would throw you back, and you would find on beginning work again that you had lost ground; therefore, if you have to leave home for any length of time provide yourself with plenty of work, and do not let more than two or three weeks elapse without taking it up again. A couple of hours a day even would keep your hand in. Let nothing interfere with your regular hours of work, you have so many hours a day to do, take care that you do them. A girl's time is generally considered of little value, and is frittered away in little useless interruptions and social "duties"; every one thinks they may make demands upon it. You must shake yourself clear of all this if you are ever to become a professional engraver, you would need to have as much command over your own time, and be as free from interruption, as any of your brothers are.

Do not be in too great a hurry to obtain remunerative employment, if you begin by turning out bad work it will go far towards preventing your getting the best kind of work when you are really fit to undertake it. If you take paying work too soon, it will be only the inferior and cheap kind that you will get, and by spending your time over that you will make no progress, and will end by being only a second-rate engraver. Women ought to aim at being first-rate engravers, and try to stand in the front ranks of the profession. Wait, therefore, till you can do excellent work, and have some good proofs to show, before you try to get employment.

A great deal has been said about the suitability of wood engraving as an occupation for ladies to carry

on in their own homes, as it is neither laborious nor untidy, and can be carried on in a small space and without disturbing the other members of the family. This is true, it is a very good home employment, but all the same, we believe that the greatest success will be achieved by those women who, like male engravers, have a special workroom, unless they happen to live near the centres of business. In the latter they will easily obtain plenty of work, but if their home is a long distance from the city (I speak specially of London), their best chance is to hire chambers in the city where employers can easily find them, and go there to their work every day. They cannot expect anyone to send work several miles when it can be done as well and as cheaply in the next street. The only remedy for those who live out of town is to make arrangements for sending for, and returning, their work without giving trouble to their employers. The post will help them a great deal in this; but still, the nearer the engraver is to the centre of the publishing trade the greater will be her chance of obtaining full employment. Could not two or three ladies, good engravers, join together, hire one or two rooms in the city, and set up in business as a firm? They would live in their own homes and go to their work daily, but all orders and business letters would be received at their chambers. Such an arrangement would put them more on an equality with other professional engravers, and they would also be enabled to take girls as apprentices.

When you set up as a professional engraver you should drop the distinctive "Miss," never put Miss —, on your business cards or on anything. Business men do not use "Mr.," therefore women in like circumstances ought also to dispense with the prefix. Do not use your Christian name either, initials and surname are quite sufficient, and all business letters should be signed with them alone. Put them also on your cards, labels, and everything connected with your business, always omitting the "Miss." You will receive more respect and attention, and be more sure of employment, if you are supposed to be a man; therefore do not publish your sex abroad, but leave employers to find it

out for themselves. In commencing business your first care should be to prepare a business card. This card should have some pretty and uncommon design, and should also have on it your initials and surname, with "Engraver in Wood," underneath, followed by the address. The card ought to be entirely engraved by yourself, and will serve as a specimen of work. One of these cards should be sent to every printer and publisher in the town in which you live, and to anyone else you think would be likely to give or obtain you employment. If you care to go to the expense you might have a circular printed, of the ordinary trade-kind, and send one with each card, but have it so worded that it may be signed with initials and surname; do not put it in the third person. Provide yourself also with a label to put on your blocks, whether you send them by hand, post, or rail; you will find it a great convenience. Any tradesman's label will show you the kind, and you will find it cheapest to cut the whole block yourself, it will besides practise you in letter cutting. Have the labels a small size, and printed on adhesive paper, it saves a good deal of trouble. In putting up your blocks wrap them neatly and carefully in stout brown paper, with a piece of cardboard over the face of the block, tie with twine, and put on one of your labels. Avoid the use of newspaper or thin light paper, it has an untidy appearance and the blocks might break through. You should lay in a stock of business or memorandum paper for writing your business letters on; we ourselves would give the preference to memorandum paper if a choice has to be made; it saves time in a short note, requires neither beginning nor ending, but only the name of the person or firm you are addressing and the date at top. Any general printer will show you specimens of both kinds. For envelopes the common blue kind are those in general use for business communications. Very likely you will consider it of little consequence what sort of paper and envelopes you use, it seems such a small matter, but it is in just these little things that the difference between an amateur and a professional comes out. Take care, therefore, not to use crested envelopes or superfine note-paper with a fancy monogram when

writing on business, it will remind the person you are writing to that he is dealing with a "lady" unacquainted with business details, and not with a business woman. Be always as business-like as you can in all your transactions and arrangements. An india-rubber hand stamp with name, profession, and address, for stamping post-cards you will find very useful, and indeed they are in such general use now that you could hardly do without one. It will do for envelopes also unless you do not mind the expense of having them stamped in the usual way by a printer. In the latter case you must go to the expense of a die, which will cost a few shillings. Some firms like to have an invoice sent in with a finished order, therefore you may require to have a book of invoices or "receive notes;" you can obtain it from your printer. There is one article that we have found so useful to ourselves that we would advise an engraver to furnish herself with one even before she sets up in business, and that is an inking roller. It saves a great deal of time and strength, and is well worth the money. It should be a six-inch printers' roller, covered with the same composition as the large rollers in use in printing machines. A marble slab about 9 by 14-inches will be necessary for rolling the ink on, and take care to keep both it and the roller perfectly free from dust. Wrap a piece of paper close round the roller directly you have done using it, glazed writing paper is the best for this purpose.

When you write a business letter make it always short and to the point, the shorter the better so that it conveys your meaning. Avoid all unnecessary words, be clear and precise; keep to your subject, and say what you have to say in as few words as possible. Ladies are too apt to write lengthy and unbusinesslike letters, they are so accustomed to a voluminous private correspondence, and to spend a good deal of time over it. Always answer a business letter at once; never put it off or delay, it ought to be done immediately. It is very provoking to a busy person to be kept waiting for a reply, and publishers, from whom most of your work will come, are always busy. When you receive an order acknowledge it directly, and do not

leave your employer in ignorance as to whether or not you have received and can execute his order. Ladies seem generally to imagine that an order requires no acknowledgment, and that they may wait and finish the work first before communicating with the sender. I have found this very annoying in my own experience. Once we sent an order for a drawing to a lady which was required in a hurry. Days passed and we heard nothing from her, we did not know whether she might be out of town, and never have received it. After waiting a week we rushed off to look her up, quite at the other end of the town, found her all right, and asked why she had never sent the drawing. "Had been engaged with visitors, and had not had time." She had not even thought it necessary to acknowledge the order, and let us know that she could not undertake to do it at once. This will not do in business; you must not keep your employer waiting, wondering when he will get an answer, or he will probably pass you by next time when there is work to give out. If you leave town at any time you must make arrangements for carrying on your business in your absence. Authorize some one to open and forward business letters and orders, you will probably find it quite easy to work away from home if you take tools, &c., with you. An employer who has given an hurried order, and expects to have it executed at once, will not like to have it returned after some delay because the engraver is "away from home." The few days delay may seriously inconvenience him, and may prevent his having the book or magazine ready in time. Publishers are generally in a hurry, so be prompt and punctual in all your dealings with them, for though engravers are proverbially unpunctual, you should take special care to be an exception. If you have promised work by a certain day be sure to have it ready and sent in on that day. Always keep to time, never delay, if you want a little extension ask for it, do not take it on your own responsibility.

Send out your accounts when other engravers send out theirs, which is generally half yearly, though it may vary in different towns. You should have proper

account paper to make them out on, instead of using any scrap of paper that turns up; this last has a most unbusiness like look, and should be carefully avoided. Write your accounts neatly and legibly, putting down the separate dates at which you have sent in each order, and remember in receipting always to stamp those above £2.

And now I have to touch upon a point on which ladies are extremely sensitive—I mean receiving payment for their work. They do not like it to be known that they work for money, they have a sort of false shame about it which we would like much to see them get the better of. Ask the proper market value of your work, and take it, as money fairly and honestly earned. Why should ladies be ashamed at being paid for their work? it does not make them any less ladies, than it makes a barrister less a gentleman because he takes his fee. If you live, or have chambers near an employer, he will probably send round to pay your account, if you live a good distance away, you must call for the money yourself. And do not be afraid to ask for it if necessary, you have fairly earned it, and it is your due.

You ought to have a few pounds in hand when beginning to set up in business, for besides the cost of the cards, labels, &c., you will find various other small expenses crop up, such, for instance, as India paper, postage, &c.; and you may also have to lay out money on wood, photographs, or drawings before you have received payment of your own accounts. Perhaps you may think that all the things I have mentioned are unnecessary, and you could get on quite as well without them, but it is in attention to these little details that the success of a business in a great measure depends. For the benefit of women engravers, I give a list of the various articles, with the probable prices attached. Of course it is only an estimate of cost, as printers vary in their charges:—

					s.	d.
200 Cards	...	...	...	...	10	6
200 Circulars	...	...	...	...	15	0
250 Memo. paper	...	...	...	...	7	6

			s.	d.
250 Receive Notes in book	...	...	9	6
100 Labels, adhesive paper	...	...	3	6
100 Account Paper	...	...	5	0
Inking Roller	...	...	9	6
India-rubber Stamp	...	...	7	6

£3 8 0

You must exert yourself to obtain work if you wish to succeed as an engraver; do not sit at home expecting the work to come to you, you must go after the work. Keep always pushing yourself, always reminding people of your existence—make yourself known in every direction you can. If you are too retiring, people will forget you soon enough. Cultivate business habits, and make publishers feel that it is to their interest to employ you. Men are too apt to think they are doing women, especially educated women, a favour in giving them work of any kind, and this is a good deal owing to their unbusiness-like ways, which makes it troublesome to deal with ladies. We hope, therefore, that women engravers will make it their aim, not only to be at the head of the profession in the excellence of their work, but to be also good women of business and real professional engravers.

E. P. BURTON, *Engraver*.

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### ART. III.—THE INFERIORITY OF WOMAN ESTABLISHED BY SCIENCE.

SOME attention of late has been attracted by an exhaustive pamphlet published by a French scientific man, M. Delaunay, of which the substance appeared in the *Times*, the purpose of which is to show by a scientific examination of all existing data on the subject that woman is intellectually, as in every other respect, in a lower stage of development than man, and therefore inferior to him. Every kind of evidence is



adduced in support of this theory (except we may observe that of women themselves). M. Delaunay admits that "among certain lower forms of life, as insects, some fishes and reptiles, the females show a superiority to the males, but among the higher vertebrates it is very different. Among birds and mammals, the male is nearly always superior to the female. The two sexes, he tells us, at first unequal in consequence of the pre-eminence of the female over the male which characterizes the more inferior species, become equal among certain species a little more elevated in the animal scale, and again unequal in consequence of the pre-eminence of the male over the female observed in all the superior species."

Having laid down this principle, M. Delaunay proceeds to illustrate it by the most remarkable series of statements which it has ever been our lot to have endorsed by science. We are of course familiar with the old argument of the inferior specific gravity of the female to the male brain, and M. Delaunay pays no attention to the opposite argument that fineness of convolution and not weight determines the power of the brain; but the following will surely be new and not too acceptable to the accomplished ladies who are among the leaders of Parisian society:—"The graphic curves of feminine brains of various races," says M. le Bon, "show that even in the most intelligent societies, as the Parisians of to-day, there is a notable proportion of the female population whose brains approach more to the volume of those of certain gorillas than the least developed crania of the masculine sex." Moreover, the frontal lobes, the seat of the highest intellectual faculties are less developed in woman than in man, and the occipital, or the sentimental lobes more developed in woman, whose brain is always more or less embryonic. Hence, women are more prone to every kind of wickedness than men, and poisoning is more common among them. Statistics it is true prove that the proportion of women who commit crimes is as about one to four compared with men; but when did a scientific theory ever succumb to statistics.

The physical supremacy of man is also shown in

many varied ways. "Woman is more flat-footed and less arched than man—a sign of inferiority; hence, he maintains, the preference of women for high-heeled boots." We had always been told by English physiologists that the high heels were the *cause* and not the *effect* of malformation of the feet. "Man eats more than woman, yet although she eats less, the woman is more of a *gourmande* and eats more frequently." French scientific men must have peculiar facilities for observing social phenomena, or else Parisian differs considerably from London life. In England club *menus*, turtle dinners, and exquisite "bouquets" of vintages are supposed to gratify the masculine palate chiefly, and the feminine organs of taste are so uneducated that a cutlet and a cup of tea at home are considered by them equally satisfactory. We have been told even of late days that the main object of acquiring proficiency in cookery is to gratify the husband and keep him at home by providing savoury little dinners instead of the traditional cold mutton. "Man has a larger pulmonary capacity than woman," and yet strange to say, "he requires to breathe less frequently." Do scientists really suppose that a little vessel requires to be filled less often than a large vessel? "Men have more red globules and hemoglobine in their blood, and fewer white globules and water than woman," and this is a conclusive proof of superiority. We are inclined to suspect that a plough-boy or navvy might have more red globules in his blood than a philosopher, but the connection in this case between red blood and mental development would be less acceptable to M. Delaunay. Again, "the woman is not so right-handed as the man; the pre-eminence of the right side over the left is less in the female." It is unscientific to suppose, as we had always done, that the comparative uselessness of our left hands is a defect in the physical education of children. "Woman is more playful, more changeable, more capricious than man. She is more destructive and less circumspect. The number of women run over in the street is much greater than that of men." This last is a most curious argument. We have been told that more street accidents occur in Paris in proportion to its population than in London.

Is this a proof of the inferiority of the inhabitants, or is the fact of the greater liability of women to accidents, if a fact it be, possibly attributable to their cumbrous dress and less exercised muscles?

"The movements of man," we are informed, "are more precise than those of woman." Among pianists of the two sexes the mechanism reaches a much higher degree of perfection in the men.

"According to Darwin, man in all he undertakes goes further than woman, acts from profound thought, from reason or imagination, or simply from the use of his senses or even of his hands. If, he says, we prepare a list of the men and another of women most distinguished in poetry, painting, sculpture, science, and philosophy, each containing a dozen names, the two lists would not bear any comparison. It is objected to this that the intellectual inferiority of woman is due to the fact that for centuries she has not received the same education as man. This objection, M. Delaunay maintains, is not just. In past centuries the mass of the people were sunk in ignorance; neither the one sex nor the other received any education. M. Delaunay maintains, then, with Professor Bischoff, of Munich, that women have not had to the exercise and evolution of their brain and intelligence any other hindrances than those proceeding from their constitution and their capacity for development. M. Delaunay, moreover, points out that female musicians receive the very same education as males, and yet it is well known that, though there have been some excellent female performers, there is no instance of a great female composer. It is the same with painters and with the culinary art; among the thousands of women who have exercised the latter, there have been few, if any, *cordons bleus*. M. Delaunay cites the opinions of manufacturers and commercial men who employ individuals of both sexes. They all agree that women are more assiduous, but less intelligent, than men. In printers' establishments, for example, women work with minute care, mechanically, without knowing very well what they are doing. Thus they make good compositors in the case of reprints, a work not demanding much intelligence, but set up manuscripts badly, not understanding them so well as men.

In making these *ex cathedra* statements M. Delaunay ignores, as it is the custom of scientific men, as of other fallible mortals, occasionally to ignore, facts that tell against his argument. In the first place technical schools from the highest to the lowest have till very lately not been open to women. The wonder is rather that they have accomplished so much, than that they have not done more. Women learned the piano not as a profession but as an accomplishment. Schools of painting were not, and to a great extent are not, open to them. Universities shut them out. Philosophy and

science were sealed books to them; otherwise no doubt, women would have learned humbly to accept the inferior position to which science relegates them, and not by injudicious aspiration, striven against the decrees of Fate. They are allowed to be more "assiduous" (this is surely something in favour of the inferior animal, especially in view of her changeableness and caprice), but their movements are not well under command. They do not print so well. Down to very recent years, they were not allowed to learn this art at all. Is there any want of precision, we wish to know, in the dexterous fingers of embroiderers, lace-makers, enamellers, or other professional women. Are the treasury clerks of America unintelligent in the performance of their functions? We are tempted to contrast M. Delaunay's statement with the description which Scribner gave some years ago of some of these treasury clerks, showing no lack of mechanical precision or understanding.

On many occasions she has counted fifty thousand notes in one day. As the nominal hours of labour are from nine to three o'clock, and as at least half-an-hour must be deducted from this for necessary interruptions and for lunch, the time occupied in counting these 50,000 notes was five and a half hours. This is at the rate of 9,090 notes every hour, 150 every minute, and two and a half every second! The lady informs us it is no unusual thing for her to "pick up" a bundle containing 4,000 legal-tender notes in twenty minutes. We doubt whether this can be excelled \* \* \* It is maintained by those who know, that it (counting and repairing damaged notes) could not be done by men with any approximation to the present rapidity and accuracy. \* \* Some of the women employed in this work have, by long experience, become exceedingly expert in pasting and restoring notes. Fragments which are so burned as to seem to others only charred pieces of paper, or so minute as to be almost indistinguishable, under their patient hands again assume the semblance of notes, so that their kinds and denominations can be readily distinguished. Notes which have been nibbled by mice into such tiny fragments that most persons would say that it was beyond human power to restore them to their original shapes, are arranged and restored bit by bit, until, after perhaps a labour of days, they begin to assume their former forms, and at last are restored with sufficient perfection to warrant their redemption. These ladies have made an art in which they have no rivals.

We should not have taken so much space to comment upon M. Delaunay's assertions, were it not that from the conclusions of speculative science he draws a

conclusion for the political and social management of mankind. He asserts that "superiority of women is sometimes met with among the inferior races, ancient and modern, but never among the superior races, who are, on the contrary, always characterized by the supremacy of man. The difference between the sexes increases as we rise in the scale of culture; it is greater between educated men and women in the city than between illiterate peasants. Hence, all known legislators take for granted the intellectual inferiority of the feminine sex as compared with the masculine. Everywhere woman is regarded as a minor, incapable of taking care of herself, and requiring a guide and tutor."

Now, as M. Jourdain talked prose without knowing it, our lawgivers have for centuries, and still are enabled to be, partial towards men and unjust towards women without suspecting that science authorised them in this course. Gross injustice in the division of property, in the laws of succession, in the power of restraint and chastisement, in legal and political life have always been the rule, because in olden time might made right, and men were the stronger. But now science renders them necessary and logical, because men have more red globules and a better kind of graphic curves. Science comes to re-inforce brute strength and the combination is not to be commended. We are sometimes told that this is the age in which science is king, but there are fortunately stronger forces in the world than science—there is the sentiment of justice, the aspiration after knowledge, the tenderness of sacrifice.

We needed no French *savant* to tell us that women were physically weaker than men. But let us bow our heads and humbly accept the sweeping decree. We may still say with old Sojourner Truth the escaped slave:—

"Den dey talks about dis ting in the head, what dis dey call it? Intellect? Dat's it, honey. Whats dat got to do with womin's rights or nigger's rights? If my cup won't hold but a pint and yourn holds a quart wouldn't you be mean not to let mo have my little half-measure full?"

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#### ART. IV.—SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

THE question of the better education of women has for so many years taken a prominent place in the discussions of social science, that it was only to be expected that several excellent papers should be read at the late meeting at Dublin. Although the number of Congresses has multiplied so greatly that social science no longer occupies the eminent position which twenty years ago it fairly claimed, these annual gatherings are still made the occasion of much useful information, of the dissemination of new ideas, the announcement of little known facts, and the reduction into a practical shape of theories, which without this opportunity for discussion might remain for years in the realm of speculation.

Ten years ago the Social Science Congress assembled at Leeds, and it was made the occasion for a powerful impetus being given to the cause of women's education. Mrs. Wm. Grey, by her pen, and through meetings, laid the foundation of the National Union for Women's Education, which has since been so productive of good. Public day schools for girls, evening classes for women, training schools for teachers, lending libraries, instruction by correspondence have all more or less had their origin in the Union. Universities have been opened, and colleges established since that time, and it is difficult now to realise how short a time has sufficed to produce a great change in the actualities, and still greater in the possibilities of women's education.

In the address which opened the proceedings of Social Science on October 3rd, Lord O'Hagan gave due prominence to this question. He said, after reference to the Royal University and the Intermediate Board :

"One especial characteristic is that both of them afford the same opportunities of progress—the same incitements to mental merit—to women as to men. The prizes, the exhibitions, the degrees which stimulate the Irish boy's ambition are placed within the reach of the Irish girl; and she has already given abundant proof, as I have shown, of readiness to avail herself of the novel advantage. I regard this great concession with unmixed pleasure and sanguine anticipation of its social usefulness. But I know that others take a different view, and carp at the change as a dangerous experiment.

At all times there have been many who have desired to keep woman in the position of a doll to be dandled, or a drudge to be worked, or a machine to be used for the profit or the pleasure of a master. We have been familiar with sneers at 'blue stockings,' and 'books in petticoats,' and with ungracious caricatures of learned ladies, as necessarily exhibiting conceit or dogmatic coarseness. But 'the lions have been the painters;' and the pictures have been fashioned to please men, perhaps unwilling to be matched with their sisters or their wives in pursuits in which they have painfully suspected that they might not always hold a clear supremacy. Need I argue in excuse of an educational equality as just and beneficial as it has been made inevitable by the course of human progress? One of the highest achievements of Christianity in the amelioration of the world was accomplished by the elevation of woman from her debased condition. In its divine dispensation she took her proper place, as a responsible and immortal being, and if the capacities bestowed upon her are to have full development, are we not bound to help it in the largest and most liberal way? I do not pause upon the idle controversy as to the comparative power of the male and female intellect. They are very diverse in their qualities, each gifted with those which suit the sphere for its appointed exercise, each excellent in its own degree and kind, and neither to be ranked in disparaging contrast to the other. But of women's understanding, can the contemporaries of Maria Edgeworth, and Elizabeth Browning, and George Eliot, and Mary Somerville be capable of doubting, or of its worthiness to be aided by the best appliances for its ripening growth and healthful activity, which are employed to inform and strengthen the intellect of man? She has to discharge the highest duties of humanity in her relations with her home, and will she discharge them less efficiently if a mind, well furnished and wisely disciplined, lifting her above the debilitating atmosphere of frivolity and folly, makes her a true helpmate to her husband, and fits her to form the character of her children, putting from them the temptations of indolence and vice, and equipping them with high principle, pure morals, and sound culture, to bear themselves nobly in the world? Her possession of abundant knowledge need not derogate in the smallest measure from the grace and tenderness which are the dearest characteristics of her sex; nor will her enlarged intelligence disqualify her for the wise and orderly government of a family. Some of us have seen with delight, and remember with endearing gratitude, the combination of sense and information, of clear judgment and firm will, with perfect gentleness and loving care for all about them, in wives and mothers worthy to be ranked with the "valiant woman" of Holy Writ, the heart of whose husband trusted in her, and whose children arose and called her blessed, who opened her mouth with wisdom, and in her tongue was the law of kindness. Her kindness was not less kind because it was associated with her wisdom; and her husband did not cherish her with less attachment because that wisdom made her worthy of his trust. Some seem to think that knowledge must unsex the woman and lead her to intrude on the proper business of the man. But surely it is not so. Their provinces are separate. Nature has marked the line between them, and it should never be

overpassed. *Non omnia possumus omnes.* There are avocations which physical and mental constitution and the necessity of things assign to each respectively, and the woman's influence is never so great and true as when she confines herself to those which properly belong to her. The offer to her of instruction in the whole range of science and letters, on a complete equality with man, does not involve or imply approval of the application of that instruction to any purposes which the conditions and ends of her existence should not permit her to pursue.

On October 6th the Education Department was crowded, chiefly by ladies, to listen to a paper read by Mrs. Byers, Principal of the Ladies' Collegiate School in Belfast, on "The Higher Education of Women." The object of this paper was to point out some of the obstacles which retard the spread of liberal education among women of the middle class in Ireland. Mrs. Byers offered the following suggestions for the removal of these obstacles:—(a) By lectures, or by frequent friendly conference, means should be taken to awaken the mind of the middle class public to the importance of co-ordinating measures for the general and technical education of their children. (b) Ladies who are teachers should frequently meet to confer and devise plans of work. If there is to be any widespread reform we must combine and compare our views with the utmost freedom, and we ought to endeavour to foster a professional sisterhood while encouraging a right emulation in the practice of education and in educational research. (c) In large centres, girls' schools can be made self-supporting. When private enterprise schools have got the support of numbers, drawing a sufficient income from the immediate neighbourhood, steps should be taken, when agreeable to the founders, to make such institutions permanent. And when parents cannot really afford to equip schools they should collect funds from the benevolent and wealthy to supply these wants. (d) Parents of the middle class should undertake to provide suitable school buildings and school appliances; and in districts where the population is insufficient to maintain two good schools, boys and girls should be taught together. (e) In the entire absence, in this country, of training colleges for teachers and of such collegiate advantages as fit men of the same rank for



teaching, systematic efforts should be made to supply these omissions. Funds should be raised to aid really able girls without means who wish to devote themselves to educational work. Model and practising classes ought to be provided in the large existing schools, where at the same time the theory and practice of education may be carefully taught. Then, as all women who require to support themselves cannot possibly go to teaching, means for technical training should be organized for those who have little capacity or no inclination for the work of education.

A paper on "The Higher Education of Women" was also read by Miss Helen Blackburn. This paper pointed out that the absence of anything like adequate provision for the higher education of girls in Ireland, causes much of the teaching power amongst women to be drained off into England. This left the great majority of Irish girls ill-provided with means of instruction of an advanced kind, and diminished the energy of the country. The paper then enumerated several foundations having schools for boys and girls, in which the boys receive instruction in classics, mathematics, or scientific subjects, while the girls had only the barest list of accomplishments, often only needlework, to correspond to these higher subjects, and suggested that the amalgamation of classes on these subjects in the schools enumerated, would be a first practical step towards providing better education for women.

A highly interesting discussion followed these two papers. Miss TOP advocated mixed schools for boys and girls, and said the ladies who were working for higher education in Ireland were under a grievous disadvantage, from the absence of good endowed schools. Dr. NEILSON HANCOCK did not think the Incorporated Societies' Schools were carrying out the trust upon which they were founded, because they provided no education for girls, as they were bound to do according to present public opinion. He thought they were bound to add a girls' school to every one of their grammar schools, for every penny of the trust was originally given for boys and girls equally. Again, why were not the endowments of the Queen's Colleges and of the

Dublin University extended to women, especially as the one bore the Queen's name and the other was governed by Queen's letters? Professor O'RYAN of Cork approved of the intermediate education being equal, but did not think it could be any advantage to push on ladies in the higher branches of mathematics, physics, and logic. The PROVOST of Trinity College pointed out that it was inconsistent to encourage women to look for education in high class intermediate schools, while opposing their admission to universities. The subjects taught in intermediate schools included Greek, Latin, natural philosophy, chemistry, music, and other things. Therefore, as far as abstruse subjects were concerned it seemed to him that they were taught in intermediate schools, and if women went to intermediate schools he did not see how they could avoid studying those abstruse subjects. If they merely wanted to make woman an ornamental person, perhaps reading, writing, drawing, music, and probably dancing would suffice; but if they wanted to make woman take her proper place as an intellectual being, those subjects which were suited to form the mind of a man, were also suited to form the mind of woman. Mr. JOYNT and the Rev. Dr. MOLLOY supported the same views, while Professor MAHAFFY and Professor KAVANAGH agreed that all legislative obstacles to the opening of the Universities should be removed, though they doubted if Irish ladies would avail themselves to any great extent of the permission. Other speakers also took part in the discussion.

A paper on "Education as a Preparation for Emigration," by Miss Cusack (the Nun of Kenmare), the Convent, Kenmare, county Kerry, was read by Dr. Mapother. Miss Cusack's writings have long commanded great attention among her compatriots, and her name is known and honoured in every country where Irishmen are found. Miss Cusack proposes a scheme which she thinks would be equally advantageous to those who emigrate and to those who do not. She would have a special course of study which should bear on the general employment of the people, which should give them general information on practical agriculture and on the commercial relations

of different countries. "To teach our people," she said, "that manual labour is honourable, and to teach them how to make manual labour profitable, whether in the field or in the shop, would be a task not difficult to accomplish, and worthy of all effort. To give our people general knowledge of the agricultural and commercial condition of lands where emigrants are most needed, and will be most welcomed should be an important element in their course of study. So that we may no longer find that kind of haphazard emigration which is indicated when you ask a boy or girl why they are leaving their native land, and get the reply "To better myself," when the speaker has not the least idea of how the bettering is to be accomplished." She also touched on the all-important point of protection of young girls going alone to a distant land. She believed the one great protection would be to have three or four establishments founded; one in each province, where girls could be received for even a week, or, if possible, for several weeks before they emigrate, where they would get practical advice as to their future life, where their future destination would be known, and it would be seen that they were received at the other side safely. With a good method on the part of the teacher, and a good will on the part of the taught, much could be learned in a very short time, and a general idea of housework could be given to those fitted for servants. Then in cases where it was impossible or undesirable for girls to remain even for a few days, the names and addresses of intending emigrants could be given, and particulars forwarded to respectable persons on the other side, to whom these girls would look for protection or advice. She had long desired to found such an institution.

A paper on the Laws of Marriage was contributed by the Rev. T. N. Carre, the Chaplain of the Dublin Female Penitentiary Church, in which he affirmed that they were at present very unsatisfactory, "impolitic as regards the State, unjust towards the woman, and immoral as regards society." Another paper by Mrs. Elmy was read the following day, on "Recent Legislation and Attempted Legislation with regard to the Property of Married Women."

On October 7th, Miss ISABELLA M. S. TOD read a paper on the place of women in the administration of the Irish Poor Law, advocating the election of women as Poor Law Guardians. Our readers know that under the present law women are not eligible to this office in Ireland. Her views were ably supported by Miss Downing, who is herself a Poor Law Guardian in a London Union; also by Miss Blackburn, Miss Sharman Crawford, Mr. A. Shackleton, a Poor Law Guardian of South Dublin Union, Mr. Vere Foster, and Mr. Thomas Dowling. A resolution was unanimously adopted by the section expressive of its opinion, that the legal disabilities which prevent the election of women to the position of Poor Law Guardians in Ireland ought to be amended. We hope to be able in our next number to give Miss Tod's paper.

Mrs. MORGAN JOHN O'CONNOR also contributed a paper on "Sickly Children dependent on the State." Its object was to rouse public opinion to investigate into the case of these poor sufferers, and it offered suggestions for raising their health standard.

Dr. GRIMSHAW read a paper on the necessity for extending the operations of Ladies' Sanitary Associations, and gave details of the work done by the Dublin Ladies' Sanitary Association, and dwelt on the usefulness of operations on the part of ladies in the promotion of sanitary reform, more especially mentioning the name of Miss Hamilton Stubber as one whose efforts had been most praiseworthy in Dublin. A brief discussion followed, in which the value of the efforts of ladies in sanitary reform was fully recognised.

In the Repression of Crime Section, Dr. NEILSON HANCOCK brought forward the summary of a report by a Local Committee as to the means of diminishing vice and crime in Ireland. The following were among the suggestions under the head of protection and rescue of girls under twenty-one years of age:—

"The authorities of charitable and religious institutions who undertake the care and support of girls—whether in homes, asylums, hospitals, or penitentiaries—should have the power of temporary ex-officio guardians for the care and protection of the girls they

so support and befriend. The master or employer of any girl who is not residing with a parent or guardian, or some person deputed by parent or guardian to exercise control over her, should be deemed temporary ex-officio guardians of the girl. The principle of the Industrial Schools Act, 1880, of allowing children under the age of fourteen to be rescued from houses of ill-fame, should be extended to the age of sixteen—the age at which they can be kept in the industrial school. The authority of managers of industrial schools and reformatories over girls should be extended, so as to allow by apprenticeship, or by placing girls out on license, the exercise of such authority in every case up to the age of twenty-one years (unless girl previously married). Then there should be authority in every guardian of a girl under twenty-one to rescue her from a house of ill-fame.

The report also contained suggestions for making the liability of reputed fathers the same in Ireland as in England. The Irish law in this respect is much less just to women than the English. Here the law recognises, in a degree, the duty of a father to contribute to the support of an illegitimate child, and enables the mother to sue him herself, and herself receive the money he contributes, but the unjust law in Ireland absolves the father from all responsibility in the support of the children, except in the case of pauper and destitute children, and then only when proceeded against by the Poor Law Guardians. The report, we are glad to see, recommends "that with the modification of power to have proceedings in private (which is now proposed to be adopted in England for one branch of the subject), that the English law as to the liability of putative fathers be extended to Ireland, the jurisdiction, however, to be exercised by the County Courts, to which the Legislature entrusted, in 1863, the enforcement of the liability of such fathers to the extent it exists, in Ireland."

A contribution to the question of the technical education of women was made by Miss CORLETT, who read an excellent article upon the History of the Queen's Institute: but the work done in this admirable school is

too well-known to our readers to require further comment here.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### EDUCATION.

#### NEWNHAM COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

THE scholarships offered by the Council of Newnham College for competition in the Cambridge Higher Local Examinations held in June last have been awarded as follows:—

The Clothworkers' Scholarship to Miss Davis of Newnham College.

The Drapers' Scholarship to Miss Powell of the Clapham Middle School.

The Goldsmiths' Scholarship to Miss Fitzgerald of Wolverhampton.

The Cobden Scholarship to Miss Tennant of Newnham College.

The Group A Scholarship to Miss Davison of the Ladies' Collegiate School, Belfast.

Scholarships have been also awarded to Miss Biggs, Miss F. H. Smith, Miss Dendy, and Miss Hacon of Newnham College.

#### THE MASON SCIENCE COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.

The annual meeting of the trustees and students of the Mason Science College took place on October 3rd. Dr. Gibbs Blake, Bailiff of the College, presided, and stated that there were now 181 students. Of the day students, 65 were men and 30 women; and in the evening there were 83 men and 12 women. Several new professors had been added to the staff, and new departments had been opened. A prize distribution concluded the proceedings, which afforded fresh evidence of the capacity of women to distinguish themselves in the classes of a science college. Several prizes were taken by ladies, thus proving the soundness of the principle upon which

the college is established, that of admitting students of both sexes to the same kind of training in the same classes, and upon equal terms both of teaching and examination.

#### INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, IRELAND.

In his opening speech at the Social Science Congress, Lord O'Hagan pointed out the unanimous approval which this system had received from all classes and denominations of the Irish people. How the novel system has roused the spirit of Irish boys and girls, and how the parents appreciate its advantages, is best proved by the number of those who have given notice of their purpose to be examined in 1879, 1880, and 1881 respectively. In 1879 such notice was given by 3,671 boys and 797 girls, in all 4,468 persons. In 1880, 4,493 boys and 1,477 girls, making in all 5,970, gave notice; whilst in the present year it has been given by 5,714 boys and 2,033 girls, in all 7,747, and the system is yet in its infancy.

The *Daily Express*, October 4th, gives the list of successful students. In the Senior Grade eighteen boys have been awarded exhibitions of £50 a year, and five girls whose names are Margaret Fitzmaurice, Bedford House, Listowel; Charlotte Young, Ladies' Collegiate School, Londonderry; Annie Wilson Patterson, Alexandra College, Dublin; Alice Everett, Ladies' Collegiate School, Belfast; and Mary Power, Loretto Abbey, Rathfarnham. Twelve boys and ten girls have been awarded first-class prizes in books value £4, thirteen boys and seven girls second-class prizes in books value £3, and twenty-three boys and five girls third-class prizes, value £2. In the Middle Grade forty-four boys have been awarded exhibitions of £30 a year, tenable for two years, and fourteen girls; 29 boys and 21 girls first-class prizes, 43 boys and 8 girls second-class; and 65 boys and 10 girls third-class prizes. In the Junior Grade 172 boys and 76 girls have been awarded exhibitions of £20 a year tenable for three years; 65 boys and 26 girls have received first-class, 104 boys and 37 girls second-class, and 140 boys and 35 girls third-class prizes. Gold and silver medals were also distributed

to the first and second boys and girls in their respective grades, and to boys and girls for Greek, Latin, English, Modern Languages, Mathematics, Natural Science, Drawing and Music.

#### WOMEN AS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The report of the Committee of Council on Education in England and Wales for 1880-81 calls attention to the increasing proportion of women following the calling of elementary school teachers.

Thus, out of every hundred certificated teachers, 48 were women in 1869, and 57 in 1880; out of every hundred assistant teachers, 60 were women in 1869, and 66 in 1880. Of pupil teachers there were 7,273 young women as against 5,569 young men in 1869, while the figures for pupil teachers last year are 20,934 women to 10,636 men. As these are the material whence the supply of elementary school teachers are drawn, the preponderance of women in this department of the national service is probably now firmly established.

The figures as regards salary do not, however, show a corresponding improvement. The present average salary of a certificated schoolmaster is stated at £121 7s. 2d., being £25 10s. 10d. more than the average of 1870; while the present average for schoolmistresses is stated at £72 12s. 8d., this being £14 16s. 3d. only, above that of 1870.

Moreover, the results recorded of the examinations of candidates for certificates of teachers instituted by the Science and Art Department, indicate less attention to the scientific instruction of women than of men. The range of scientific subjects in the women's training colleges appears to be considerably smaller than in the training colleges for masters, the percentage of passes is less, and while men may be examined in four subjects, women are limited to one subject.—*Suffrage Journal*.

#### KING'S COLLEGE LECTURES FOR LADIES.

The Michaelmas term began at 5, Observatory Avenue, Campden Hill, W., on October 10th. The number of classes has been increased, and are designed to supplement and continue school education, having



reference to the examinations open to women in the London University and elsewhere.

#### LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

The inaugural address of the eighth winter session was delivered on Monday, October 3rd, by Miss Annie Reay Barker, M.D., who gave a concise sketch of the history of the movement for the medical education of women, and then congratulated the students on the way in which they had worked to maintain its dignity and reputation, and especially called attention to their achievements at the recent examinations of the London University, when Miss Frances Prideaux took the gold medal and exhibition for anatomy. Mrs. Scharlieb and Miss Emily Tomlinson also took honours. Miss Barker said that not only were the ladies working well as students, but they were beginning to spread themselves gradually and quietly over the country, becoming centres of usefulness in the towns in which they had established themselves, and thus supplied a need which was making itself more apparent, now that there was a possibility of obtaining the help of skilled women doctors. Of the 26 ladies now on the register 12 were practising in England and Scotland. Six of these were in London, four in the provinces, and two in Edinburgh. Dispensaries for women and children had been founded by lady practitioners at Manchester, Leeds, Bristol, and Edinburgh, and in the most recently founded, that at Manchester, by Dr. Anna Dahms, the number of patients had so far outstripped the power of one practitioner that the small fee charged for each visit had had to be raised to keep it within bounds. Of the success of the new hospital for women, Marylebone road, founded by Mrs. Anderson, M.D., there was no need to speak. A Provident Dispensary had been established at Notting Hill, of which Mrs. Marshall, M.D., was the medical officer. Miss Barker bore personal testimony to the progress that had been made in Birmingham, and expressed her pleasure in speaking of the fairness, practical good sense, and kind feeling with which medical women had been received there. The prejudices against women doctors must, Miss Barker told the students, be

overcome not by showing ill-will in return, but by honest, true work, and by showing that though they have entered a profession, they have lost none of the refinement and dignity of true gentlewomen.

THE ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP at the London School of Medicine, value £30, has been taken by Miss E. Pailthorpe, who obtained 354 marks out of a possible standard of 400.

NOTTING HILL DISPENSARY.—A Provident Dispensary for women and children has been opened at 193, Portobello Road, Notting Hill, for the benefit of women and children of the working classes who cannot afford to pay the usual professional fees, by which they may secure medical advice and medicines during illness by means of periodical payments. For children under 14 years of age the payment is 3d. every four weeks; for women above 14, 4d., but if requiring medical treatment immediately, or within two months after application, a fee of 5s. is paid. The medical officer, Mrs. Marshall, M.D. (of 2, St. John's Gardens, Ladbroke Grove, W.), attends at the dispensary daily, except Sundays, at 11 o'clock, and a properly qualified midwife (Mrs. Wesley) resides at the dispensary. Miss Mary Cross 3, Percy Villas, Campden Hill, and Mrs. W. R. Anderson, 42, Ladbroke Grove, Notting Hill, are the Hon. Secs. to the Managing Committee and Mrs. S. H. Fairley, 16, Kensington Park Road, is Treasurer.

We may confidently predict that with an increase in the numbers of women physicians, these dispensaries where poor women may obtain advice from their own sex will also increase. They are much wanted.

#### THE CHURCH CONGRESS ON WOMEN'S WORK.

At the Church Congress held last week at Newcastle the question of the work of women under the Church more than once came up for discussion. All classes of teachers and reformers are now becoming aware of the immense force, hitherto neglected, which might be obtained from the ranks of leisure women.

The Rev. G. F. PRESCOTT (London), said, on October 4, while acknowledging the immense assistance rendered by district visitors and unprofessional helpers in parish work, that the clergy often keenly felt the need of some more experienced, trained and devoted

agency. The Church stood in need of trained women in her parochial, charitable, and missionary works, on the same principle which now required school mistresses and nurses to be certificated—women who could take up the various departments of her work as their life's calling. Several classes of female workers were in existence. Bible women (sometimes enthusiastically styled "the missing link"): the principle which underlay this system was altogether independent of Church authority and Church doctrine. Without denying the usefulness of such women, it was enough for his present purpose to say that, as they were not necessarily even members of the Church, he might set them aside in any enumeration of Church workers. Parochial mission women: These were necessarily members of the Church, but generally lacking in any distinctive training, and though most valuable in some unmanageable parishes, did not come under the category of trained agents. Among trained women came Anglican Sisters of Mercy, women bound together in communities, trained in habits of devotion, in technical skill, in a variety of good works. That system had now taken deep root. The sisters had done, amid prejudice and obloquy, a work for which the Church must ever be grateful. But objection was felt, not without some foundation, in fact, by some of our Bishops and sound Anglicans, to the independent attitude which sisterhoods often assumed towards episcopal authority. For though the visitor was usually the Bishop, yet the rule of the community was the law to it, and not episcopal authority. Their work was undertaken and executed irrespective of episcopal mission or control. That seemed to many a flaw and loss in their position, for thereby they failed to stand as a branch of ecclesiastical organization. There was a further system, that of deaconesses, for the recognition and general adoption of which he would now plead. A deaconess might be defined to be an educated woman, trained in all departments of ecclesiastical work, well grounded in religious knowledge, given to good works and devotional habits, imbued with the spirit of Christian faith and love, dedicated to the service of God as a profession, and solemnly set apart for the same by the chief ministers in the Church. Historically there could be no doubt of the existence of deaconesses as an order in the primitive Church, and that was no slight recommendation for a Church glorying in her harmony with primitive custom and doctrine. Deaconesses might either form themselves into a community, sending forth branches as their work extends, or might adopt an independent line after they had been called to the holy office. The "order" which he advocated would be based on the Catholic principle of the English Church, restricted to no extreme party, and on that account likely to approve itself to those who admired moderation, deference to authority, and conformity to primitive usage. Experience as Chaplain of the London Diocesan Deaconess Institution had shown him how cordially such women would be welcomed by the parochial clergy. Never before had there been opportunity like the present for the work of women in winning souls.

The same subject was further urged by the Rev.  
D. B. HANKIN. He said:—

It would ill become him, hailing, as he did, from Mildmay-park, in the north of London, to overlook, as one great means of the recovery of the lost, the agency of women. No organization for the conversion of the multitude to the faith of Christ could be complete without it. And those only who toiled among the densely-peopled parishes of our large towns and cities knew how much the Church of Christ was indebted to these effective administrations of pious women. With the parish of St. Jude's, Mildmay-park, there was connected a large Deaconesses' Institution, from which issued forth, day by day, some sixty or seventy staid deaconesses, working in different parishes of London—accompanied oftentimes by a younger sister called a probationer. They wended their way to their mission rooms—centres of life and blessing to very many—and there, by holding mothers' meetings, night schools, evening classes, and meetings of every description, both for men and women, they practically solved the problem how best to rescue the fallen, and win them to the service of the Lord. The deaconesses' work at Mildmay was Church work, and under emphatically episcopal supervision. None were accepted as members of the community but communicants of the Church of England, and no parish was entered by them except at the request of the parochial clergyman, nor any work carried on without his sanction. One of the most interesting branches of their work was the management at head-quarters of their night school for men, where year by year some 400 or 500 men and lads gathered for instruction three times a week, and the order and discipline of that school was something which, when once seen, was never forgotten, wholly secured and maintained by the tact and gentleness of their lady teachers. He should like to see such an institution as the Mildmay Deaconesses' Home in every diocese.

#### THE POOR LAW GUARDIAN ELECTION AT BODDINGTON.

OUR readers will remember that among the ladies who last April were elected to serve as Poor Law guardians was Mrs. M'Ilquham, a married woman, who was elected for Boddington in the Tewkesbury Union, by a majority of 71 votes. It had hitherto been supposed that the nomination of a married woman as guardian was illegal; but Mrs. M'Ilquham had property in her own right to the amount of the rating qualification, and the Clerk of the Union raised no objection to her nomination as a candidate, though he refused to allow her to vote in the election as owner of the property for which she was rated, because she was a married woman. She was nominated for election by her own husband also a ratepayer. After the election, an appeal was made by Mr. Arkell, the defeated candidate, who put forward several grounds for disputing the validity of the election, and

among these objections he challenged the qualification of her nominator.

The Local Government Board addressed the following letter to Mr. Henry Arkell, the unsuccessful candidate.

“Local Government Board, Whitehall, S.W.

“19th August, 1881.

“Sir,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to state that they have received from their Inspector, Mr. Longe, a report on his recent inquiry into the question raised by you with regard to the decision of the returning officer in the last annual election of guardians of the poor of the Tewkesbury Union, in returning Mrs. Harriett M’Ilquham as the elected guardian for the parish of Boddington.

“It appears that one of your objections to the return of Mrs. M’Ilquham is that her husband, who, in the capacity of ratepayer, nominated her to the office of guardian, was not qualified so to nominate.

“The rate in force at the time of the election was the rate made on the 28th of October, 1880, and Mr. M’Ilquham’s name did not appear in this rate, either as an occupier or as an owner, but he claimed the right to vote and to nominate as guardian as a ratepayer in respect of two cottages forming part of the Barrow Farm Estate belonging to his wife. From the entry in the rate book it appears that the cottages referred to were occupied respectively by George Barnett and Joseph Lawrence, that the rates in respect of these cottages were assessed upon and payable by the owner, instead of the occupier, and that the owner was Mrs. M’Ilquham. It was stated at the inquiry that the rates in respect of these cottages were in fact paid by Mr. M’Ilquham, but this circumstance does not appear to be material in relation to the question of the qualification to be derived from the assessment in the ratebook. As Mr. M’Ilquham was not rated in respect of the occupation of the cottages, and he was not, so far as the evidence shows, entitled to be rated, the Board are of opinion that he was not legally qualified to nominate in the capacity of ratepayer, and that, consequently, his nomination was invalid.

“The Board will shortly proceed to issue an order giving effect to their decision, and directing a fresh election of a guardian for the parish of Boddington.

“I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

HUGH OWEN, *Assistant Secretary.*

It will be observed that the Local Government Board set aside Mrs. M’Ilquham’s election on the ground of insufficient nomination—not on the ground that she herself was disqualified to serve in being married, and their selection of this objection, which was only one among many, goes far to support the opinion of the Clerk of the Union, that as the rated property is held

in her own right, the condition of marriage is not a disability for the office.

Great interest was expressed in the parish in the result of this inquiry. The *Tewkesbury Weekly Record* observed :

"We presume that the old candidate will stand again when the Local Government Board orders a new election. We certainly trust that Mrs. M'Iquham will present herself as a candidate. Unless the voters are very fickle there should be no difficulty in electing her once more. Her attention to and discharge of her duties has been quite exemplary. That she is capable of being an able and intelligent guardian must be the opinion of all who have come in contact with her. From the point of view of one, who, like the late Lord Beaconsfield desires the enfranchisement of women, and their advancement in the body politic, one cannot but be interested in the fact that Mrs. M'Iquham's case establishes the principle that a married woman, when holding property of sufficient value in her own right, may fill the post of Poor Law Guardian.

The Local Government Board issued the order for a new election which was to take place on September 21st. Mr. Piff of the Barrow was announced as Mrs. M'Iquham's opponent, as Mr. Arkell upon whose petition her election had been invalidated, did not again offer himself for election. Mrs. M'Iquham on this occasion, to guard against any further accident in her nomination, was nominated by three ratepayers of Boddington, viz., by Mr. John Woodward, a well-known farmer of Uckington; by Mr. Neighbour Tombs, of the Barrow, Boddington; and by Mr. Bowyer, of Bamfurlong, and she was severally designated "gentlewoman," "farmer," and "landowner farming her own land." At the last moment Mr. Piff retired, and Mrs. M'Iquham consequently was the only candidate nominated and elected without further expense to herself or the parish.

We are not sure that the action of the Local Government Board has the force of law, but it is, at all events, a strong precedent in favour of the right of married women to hold this office, when possessed of the requisite qualifications, and the case is one of great interest.

#### CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S UNION.

THE second Annual Conference of this Union took place on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of October, in the building of the Young Men's Christian Association, Liverpool,

under the presidency of Mrs. Stephen Menzies. The programme of subjects comprised among others: Consecration of Individual Gifts, Training of the Young, Cultivation of the Intellect, Scriptural Treatment of the Sick, Women's Social Influence, Preventive Work, &c. Mrs. Josephine Butler presided over the last section; among other ladies taking part in the work were Mrs. Meredith, Mrs. Hind Smith, Mrs. Reaney, Mrs. H. Grattan Guinness, &c., &c.!

#### WOMEN IN THE TEMPERANCE WORK.

In the course of the Methodist Ecumenical Conference, held last month, the Rev. C. H. Payne gave this testimony to the help which women had given to the Temperance cause:

"In respect to reformatory and philanthropic work, the women of the great Methodist family have ever been distinguished as leaders. Not to mention other forms of such work, for want of time, we can only glance at the most important reform of the 19th century—the temperance movement. The pre-eminent place which the women of Methodism occupy in this reform in America—I am not so well informed concerning the facts in British Wesleyanism—is so universally acknowledged. Always active in this great reform from its infancy, a new impulse was given to their activity in that remarkable religious phenomenon known as the Women's Temperance Crusade, which originated in 1874 in the State of Ohio, and swept over the whole country like a tidal wave of spiritual power. That idiosyncratic movement was commenced and largely carried forward by heroic Methodist women, many of whom were of high social standing, who were always nobly sustained by the best women of all Christian denominations. The simple recital of that wonderful story of their toils and persecutions and triumphs, if time permitted, would stir the heart of every lover of Christ and of humanity. Holy women praying, singing, pleading, reading God's message in the ears of the drunkard-maker and his besotted victims, and usually listened to with reverent attention, often with tears coursing down sin-furrowed cheeks; sometimes arrested by order of an opposing magistrate, led to the station-house, and locked in with criminals; but, like Paul and Silas, making the prison shake with the mighty power of their prayers and hymns, and striking terror to the hearts of keeper and magistrate alike—all this and much more that cannot now be enumerated, was enacted amid the intensest excitement of communities. And Heaven's favour was manifest in daily victories, in the closing of drinking-dens and the multiplication of reformed, converted men. The work was not, indeed, permanent in form, any more than are the blossoms that precede the fruit of the orchard; but, like the blossoms, though passing away itself, its fruit remained, and in that fruit the whole Christian world has largely shared. The impulse of

that movement is felt to-day throughout Christendom, and the victories of temperance reform were never so great in all lands as from that day forward until the present moment. The thousands of honoured women worthy of mention in connection with this reform, as well as other Christian work, will not deem the allusion invidious if I mention two distinguished representatives of their sex, conspicuous from their position, both loyal daughters of Methodism, whose influence in this cause no human power can estimate—the one is the President of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, Miss Frances E. Willard, whose eloquent words are stirring the whole country, and summoning it, as with a bugle call, to holy warfare against this greatest curse of Christendom; the other is that elect lady, the noble Mrs. ex-President Hayes, whose loyalty to temperance principles, in the Presidential mansion, has furnished the entire world an illustrious example, the influence of which can no more be measured than one can estimate the power of the sun to lighten and gladden the earth."

NO WOMEN NEED APPLY.—During the recent licensing sessions at Birmingham, a license was granted to a restaurant in Birmingham on the express condition that no woman was to be served, and no women were to be allowed on the premises. In applying for the licence the advocate employed, M. Hugo Young, said that "with regard to the restaurant being a possible place of assembly for women of doubtful reputation, he would point out to the bench that it was the intention of his client, Mr. Humpage, not to supply refreshment to any woman, good, bad, or indifferent." Mr. Jaffrey, from the bench, announced that the Licensing Committee had, after careful consideration, resolved to grant the transfer, "on condition that the license was for six days only, and that the condition offered by the applicant, that women were not to be permitted in the premises, was strictly carried out." The legality of this proceeding has been called in question, because the license granted was a full victualler's license, under which by statute the holder is bound to supply both men and women within legal hours with reasonable refreshment.

The *Alliance News* observes on this matter:—

"It is very doubtful whether this condition could be maintained in face of any earnest contravening effort to gain admittance. Well-behaved women have as much need for lawful bodily refreshment, and they have as much right to apply for it at any licensed victualling house, as men have; and they might insist on being supplied, any compact made between magistrates and publicans to the contrary notwithstanding.



But what a wonderful thing this liquor-traffic is, that in its case such a compact should be thought desirable! At every other sort of shop for the sale of goods, women would be welcomed, and their presence courted. But here, in Corporation Street, Birmingham, whatever her need, though in the last stage of hunger, no woman need apply; though fainting, and fit to drop, no entrance here for her.

Oh woman, in thy hour of ease  
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please;  
Though pain and anguish rend thy brow  
An outcast from the "public" thou!

'Entertainment for man and beast,' but none for woman. Man and wife, whom God hath joined, must divide at the door-step of this precious establishment, for the magistrates and the publican have put them asunder.

#### WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Several meetings have been held during the past month, of which it is impossible from want of space to record more than the names. On September 12th, Miss Becker gave a lecture in the Assembly Room of the Royal Hotel, Scarborough, and on the 13th in St. Hilda's Hall, Whitby. On September 19th, Mr. Councillor Cropper gave a lecture in St. Patrick's Schoolroom, Nottingham. A Public Meeting was held in Cardigan, September 21st, where the Mayor presided; an amendment was moved amid a good deal of disturbance, but it was lost. On the 15th another meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Pembroke Dock, the Mayor, Mr. Robert George, presiding; on the 6th at the Market Hall, Haverfordwest, also under the presidency of Mr. Isaac Roberts, the Mayor, and on the 7th at the Public Hall, Tenby. Miss Blackburn and Miss Downing attended as the representatives from the Society. On October 3rd, a Public Meeting was held in the Exchange Hall, Penrith, and the following evening another at St. George's Hall, Kendal.

On October 4th a crowded meeting was held in the Leinster Hall, Molesworth Street, Dublin, to promote the extension of the franchise to women ratepayers. The Viscountess Harberton presided, and the meeting was addressed also by Sergeant Sherlock, the Rev. Dr. Steinthal of Manchester, Miss Sharnap Crawford, Miss Downing, Miss Tod, Mr. Wm. Johnston, Inspector of

Fisheries, and Miss Blackburn. The Provost of Trinity College proposed the vote of thanks to Lady Harberton.

During a public banquet at the Liberal Club, Leicester, on September 30th, Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., said in speaking of the rights of citizenship: All men have equal rights, or no men have any rights at all. I do not know that this assertion applies to men only. I was speaking of the diversities of the principles of our representative system, and I know of no more flagrant illustration than that which demands as a citizen's right—the right of representation—the principle that representation and taxation should go together. And yet we quietly sit down and ignore the right and position of at least one half of the human race. We treat women in regard to politics as the Northern Democrats used to treat the slaves. I must again refer to Mr. Lowell, who says:—

“Its wal enough agin a king  
To draw resolves and triggers,  
But liberty's a kind of thing  
That don't agree with niggers.”

We in our wisdom seem to have determined that liberty does not agree with women. It is the most absurd thing in the world that the question of women's suffrage should be in existence at this time. There was a time when a very natural prejudice said that if we give them the suffrage they would become soldiers and they would enter the professions. A great step has already been taken. Women are in this country by tens and in America by hundreds, passing as Doctors of medicine, and if they can go through that, it is not too much in the name of common sense to say let them have a vote.

#### TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

At this Congress, which was held in London during September, many subjects of special interest to women were discussed. The following women were nominated to the Congress as delegates from their respective societies:—Miss Daltry, Dewsbury and Batley Weavers' Association; Miss Blackburn and Miss Craigen, Bristol National Union of Working Women; Mrs. Ellis, Bingley Weavers' Association; Mrs. Paterson and Miss Whyte, London, representing women employed in bookbinding;

Miss Addis, Dressmakers' and Milliners' Society; Miss A. Brown, Shirt and Collar Makers' Society, Miss Geary and Miss Simcox, Tailoresses' Union; Miss J. G. Wilkinson, Upholsteresses' Society.

OXFORD.—A Protective and Provident Society of working women has been successfully established in Oxford. A preliminary meeting had been held on July 11th, when a provisional committee was formed, and after a few weeks' good work, a second meeting was held on September 8th. Mrs. Mark Pattison, a member of the League Council, kindly gave the use of the dining room at Lincoln College, and provided tea and other refreshments for the women, of whom about 120 were present, including several of the workwomen employed in a large clothing factory in the town.

It was decided that membership of the Society should not be limited to tailoresses as originally proposed, but that women working at any trade should be admitted, until separation into branches becomes practicable. Miss Eva Sherwood was elected Hon. Sec., and Mr. Richardson, Treasurer; and a kind offer made by the Rev. F. J. Chavasse to lend a room as an office for the weekly business of the Society, was accepted with thanks.

On September 10th the first meeting for enrolling members was held, and thirty-five women joined and made payments. The entrance fee is 1s., payable by instalments, subscription 2d. and 3d. per week, according to rate of benefits (5s. or 7s. per week). Miss Eva Sherwood attends at the office, 37, New Inn Hall Street, with other members of the Committee, every Saturday evening from 8 to 9 o'clock to enrol members. The Society will be registered under the Trades Union Act.

#### SHOP HOURS REGULATION BILL.

A meeting of shop assistants was convened lately at the Claremont Hall, Pentonville, by the Shop Assistants Twelve Hour Labour League, for the purpose of securing a reduction of the hours of labour to twelve hours per day. Mr. George Wicks, who presided, explained that they had not attended with the object of interfering with the rights of property or of neglecting

their employers' business. They simply complained of being overworked. On the preceding day some of them worked eighteen and nineteen hours, and the majority of shop assistants laboured ninety-eight hours per week. He felt convinced that the only way for them to shorten the hours of labour was to obtain the passing of a Bill in Parliament for that purpose. The speakers who followed stated that they worked ninety to ninety-eight hours a week, which left them little leisure or relaxation. One speaker mentioned that females engaged at a shop in Tottenham Court Road worked ninety hours a week. They were not provided with seats, and were scarcely allowed sufficient time in which to have their meals. It was suggested that members and friends of the League should seek to get the public not to patronise firms who thus overworked those whom they employed. It was unanimously resolved "That in the opinion of this meeting it is necessary, in order to secure a satisfactory reduction in the hours of labour to at least twelve hours a day, to agitate with a view to secure the passing of a Bill in Parliament for this purpose; and this meeting would respectfully submit to Earl Stanhope the hardships of shop assistants, in the hope that he will include in the provisions of his Bill limiting the hours of work of females and minors, a limitation of the hours of labour of all shop assistants to twelve daily."

A PUBLIC MEETING was held at Dublin on October 8th to protest against the Shop Hours Regulation Bill being framed so as to interfere exclusively with the employment of women.

SHORTHAND.—A class for the acquirement of shorthand writing has been opened at 22, Berners Street, since October 7th.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

LADIES' SWIMMING MATCH.—A Ladies' Competition, in connection with the Portsmouth Swimming Club, took place yesterday morning off Southsea, in the presence of a large number of spectators. Twelve lady members competed for the lady championship of the club, the distance being 88 yards, which was completed

by Miss Beatrice Levison, who won the first prize in 1 min. 55 sec.; Miss Hudson, who was beaten by two yards, was second; and Mrs. Genders, the wife of the Rev. J. W. Genders, came in third. The swimming of the ladies was greatly admired, both for its grace and speed.—*Standard*, September 14th.

WORK AMONG ORPHAN AND DESTITUTE CHILDREN.—The arrangements in connection with the holding of a three days' conference in Manchester are now completed. The conference will open on the 24th October, at the Boys' and Girls' Refuge, and the subjects to be discussed are:—"Voluntary Efforts in Preventive and Rescue Work;" "Preventive Work, or the Care of Our Girls;" "The Original Work of Ragged Schools;" "Emigration;" "Family Homes;" "The Boarding-out System;" "Training Ships;" "State-labour Schools;" "Cripples' Homes;" and "Free Meals." Among the friends who have promised to take part in the proceedings are the Hon. T. H. Pelham, the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, Lord Polwarth, Miss Ellice Hopkins, of Brighton, and Miss Davenport Hill and Mrs. Surr, of the London School Board.

ST. MARY'S INSTITUTE FOR YOUNG WOMEN.—This institute, which is carried on at the Memorial Hall, Church Street, Upper Street, commenced its sixth session on Tuesday evening, October 11th. Young women engaged in business in the City or elsewhere during the day, will here find the dreary evenings pass pleasantly away; good fires and hot refreshments awaiting them, and just that society and friendship they so much need to enable them to shake off the monotony of daily toil. Various educational classes, together with the general use of the institute, are within their reach for the small sum of 2s. per quarter. The new feature this session is the formation of classes in connection with the Science and Art Department of South Kensington. These, it is expected, will be largely attended, and prove of great benefit to the young women of North London.—*Islington Gazette*.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, which recently opened its classes and degrees to women, has received a donation of £5,000 for the endowment of additional scholar-

ships for poor students. The donor connects his gift with the opening of the University to women, but the scholarships will be tenable by either man or girl.—*Athenæum*.

#### WOMEN'S BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

- "Mantegna and Francia," by Julia Cartwright.—*Sampson Low*.  
"Cecily's Debt," by Mrs. A. B. Church.—*Sampson Low*.  
"A Boycotted Household," by Letitia McClintock.—*Smith, Elder*.  
"A Broken Blossom," by Florence Marryatt.—*F. White*.  
"Alaric Spenceley," by Mrs. T. H. Riddell.—*C. J. Street*.  
"Through Cities and Prairie Lands," by Lady Duffus Hardy.—*Chapman & Hall*.  
"The Missing Note," by Mrs. G. Corbett.—*Chapman & Hall*.  
"For Her Dear Sake," by Miss Hay.—*Maxwell*.  
"Trust Her Not," by Helena Gulliver.—*Tinsley*.  
"Scripture and Ring," by Mrs. B. Buxton.—*Tinsley*.  
"Lady Ottoline," by Mrs. Lodge.—*Tinsley*.  
"The Freres," by Mrs. Alexander.—*Bentley*.  
"Poems," by May Probyn.—*Hatchett*.  
"Art of Gardening," by Mrs. Frances Foster.—*Hatchett*.  
"Kith and Kin," by Jessie Fothergill.—*Bentley*.  
"A Gem of an Aunt," Mary B. Gelin.—*Bentley*.  
"Faith and Unfaith," by Mrs. Geoffrey.—*Smith, Elder*.  
"Count Netherleigh," by Mrs. H. Wood.—*Bentley*.  
"Till Death us do Part," by Mrs. Spender.—*Hurst & Blackett*.  
"Sophy," by Violet Fane.—*Hurst & Blackett*.  
"Holly Berries," by Amy Blanchard.—*Griffith & Farren*.  
"With Costs," by Mrs. Newman.—*F. V. White*.

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#### THE MORAL REFORM UNION.

A NEW Society has commenced operations during the past few months, which specially recommends itself to the attention of Englishwomen. Its objects are to study, and confer upon, all subjects which especially affect the moral welfare of the young; to collect, sell, distribute, or publish Literature for Moral Education; and to consider how best to carry out practical measures for the reform of public opinion, law, and custom on questions of sexual morality. Many associations already exist whose work lies more or less in these directions, but it was felt by many ladies that there still existed a want for a society to do preventive rather than remedial

work. The Union is in communication with these other Associations, such as the Social Purity Alliance, the Society for the Improvement of Public Morals, the Societies for the Abolition of State Regulation of Vice, the Society for the Suppression of the Traffic in Girls, the Societies for the Protection of Young Servants, and the Young Men's Christian Associations, and keeps their reports and other important papers on hand at the office, 98, Queen's Road, Bayswater, W.

The Association first came into existence by the consultation together of a number of earnest workers during the course of the spring and summer at the house of Mrs. S. W. Browne, 58, Porchester Terrace. The terrible revelations which have been made during the past year of the moral depravity existing, not only on the Continent, but also, though we are thankful to say in a lesser degree in our own cities, showed that additional effort was necessary to prevent the growth of this moral canker. On the 19th of May, Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell read a paper entitled an "Address to Mothers on the Education of their Daughters," at a drawing-room meeting. Other papers on similar subjects have been read, and in June a large meeting took place at the Caledonian Hotel. The present office was taken in July, and although the Association is still in its infancy, many applications have been made for rescue work, for literature upon moral education, for the tracing of girls who have been lost sight of, for information about those lines of steamers which offer the most decent accommodation for female emigrants, &c., &c. No person is considered eligible for membership under the age of twenty-five. The meetings of the Society are held at the office, 98, Queen's Road, every Wednesday at three o'clock. Mrs. J. L. Snow is *Hon. Treasurer*, Mrs. S. W. Browne, 58, Porchester Terrace, Bayswater, W., *Hon. Sec.*

A drawing-room meeting will be held in connection with the Society at 58, Porchester Terrace, on Wednesday, October 26th, when an address will be given by Miss Helen Taylor, on "The Municipal Vote and the Moral Condition of Women." Cards of invitation can be obtained on application to Mrs. Browne.

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ART. I.—THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE IRISH POOR LAW.

*A Paper read by Miss ISABELLA TOD in the Economy and Trade Section of the Social Science Congress.*

THERE are few subjects touching the practical duties of one class towards another around which greater controversies have raged than that of the system of poor relief, which obtains in modified shapes in England, Ireland, and Scotland. But without expressing any opinion upon the disputed questions involved in the existence of such a system, we must all agree that it is most important to get the machinery we possess properly worked, and to seek for every element of usefulness which would find its place in an ideal system of treatment for the disabled members of the community. A very justifiable alarm is felt in regard to the huge amount of pauperism which exists among us, to the greatest extent relatively in the wealthiest part of the kingdom. If it were so, as some say, that all that has been done for material progress, for the agencies of moral elevation, for the advancement of education, of temperance, of rational amusement, of personal improvement, and all the increased earnestness in religious effort, have really made no very marked difference in the pauperism of the country, there is an evident need for



a serious reconsideration of the principles upon which it is dealt with. Certainly there is no doubt that every help is instantly needed, both to carry out existing plans better and to discover their deficiencies: these two, indeed, generally going together. Perhaps this applies with most force to the case of England, where the public wealth prevents the sense of the duty of economy, especially the economy of efficiency, from pressing as it ought to do upon the minds of the dispensers of the public funds. But we in Ireland, for very different reasons, feel the same urgent necessity. Not only are our resources small, but we are on the one hand burdened with claims of a peculiar sort, and on the other hand hampered with restrictions, such as find no place in either of the other two countries. Without dwelling upon either of these peculiar conditions, I must briefly notice the leading points in each. I desire especially to show that one great and recognised, though but lately recognised, element of good administration in England, from which we are at present excluded, is even more needed here than there—namely, that ladies shall officially share in it. Many other ameliorative influences will assuredly be gained indirectly through the accession of this one.

Some of the circumstances which make the work of the Irish Poor Law exceptionally difficult have been painfully pressed upon the public attention during the past two years. For the first time probably it is thoroughly understood that a people living almost wholly by agriculture is at the mercy of the seasons, in a way in which no population of mixed industries can be. Other causes of poverty and of the small accumulation of capital are also better known, or acknowledged, than formerly, but some of their consequences are not so well kept in mind. Emigration, for instance, which in most cases probably is a gain to the individual, has several distinct evil consequences to the country. It takes away precisely those whose youth, strength, and energy might find or make openings for new manufactures and other means of livelihood. It increases the proportion left behind of the old, the very young, the sick, crippled, imbecile, and lunatic. Large as the sums are which are sent back by emigrants

to Ireland—a wholly new phenomenon in the world's history, having no parallel elsewhere—they are not directed in the first place to that melancholy band. Again, although the proportion of female to male emigrants is greater in Ireland than in any other country, still emigration does constantly increase the relative number of women left behind, which further lessens the chances of finding or making new openings in life. Again, the results of lowered health and vitality in consequence not only of the occasional failure of the principal industry, but of the habitual narrowness of the means of living, are very obvious. An immense proportion of the rural, and much even of the urban, population of Ireland is simply unable at this moment to do the full work which might be expected from persons of similar age and condition. People who not only never complain, but who would reject with indignation any complaint made on their behalf, are nevertheless so seriously impaired in health, by the long continuance of inadequate food, shelter, clothing, rest of body, and opportunity for expansion of mind, that they are more liable than they should be to take disease, and to suffer from accidents, and to recover more slowly or not at all. They are less able to meet misfortune in any shape, and, therefore, more likely, themselves or their families, to require public aid at some time. It is the plain truth, also, that the habitual absence of so many of the wealthier classes, by lessening not only direct help and means of employment, but withholding the natural leadership necessary for every kind of enterprise, cuts away many possibilities of useful progress. And yet again, the power of deportation of paupers of Irish birth from England and Scotland, while there is no power to remove English and Scotch paupers from Ireland, is another abnormal strain upon our charitable resources. While the demands are therefore greater proportionally than they are in England or Scotland, the machinery provided to meet them is both weaker and more rigid. We do not desire the laxity of the English Poor Law. But our system of poor relief is placed upon a basis so narrow, and with rules so inelastic, that it has scant room for useful action when an emergency comes,

without an appeal to Parliament. Boards of guardians in Ireland have very much more limited powers than Boards in England, at all times, and a very much more limited discretion on special occasions. Nor has the Local Government Board in Ireland anything like the same powers as the Local Government Board in England, either for its own action or for the permissive powers which it might give to the guardians when necessary. We need only compare the action of English Boards during the cotton famine in Lancashire, when they could and did promptly take the initiative in providing for the exceptional sufferings of the people, without even needing to seek permission from the Poor Law Board, with the difficulty of Irish Boards in meeting the distress of the winter before last, when, in order to obtain, not greater, but smaller powers than those ordinarily possessed by English Boards, it was needful for the Relief of Distress Act to be brought into Parliament, and run all the risks and encounter all the delays of an ordinary political measure. But, besides its un readiness for meeting a grave crisis like that alluded to, the Irish Poor Law is most rigid and narrow precisely where it ought not to be—namely, in dealing with its principal clients, women and children. Laxity is quite as dangerous as harshness. But it is possible to be penny-wise and pound-foolish in refusing relief to the decent at a critical moment, and either driving them in among paupers at once or leaving them to fall into the same abyss after a struggle. Discretion is of course greatly needed in the disposal of such cases; but what we complain of is that this discretion is withheld from Irish authorities. English guardians have the legal power to give outdoor relief to several classes, who are by law excluded from the notice of Irish guardians. For instance, they may give relief to widows during the first six months of their widowhood, of course considering each case on its merits. In Ireland they have no such power. They may relieve a widow having one young and helpless child, whether she have elder children or not. In Ireland they cannot give help unless she has two or more quite helpless. In England they can assist the wives and families of men detained in lunatic asylums,

or even in gaol, those of soldiers and sailors serving abroad, and deserted wives. In Ireland the guardians have no power to offer anything but the workhouse in any of these cases.

Now, when we remember that all these classes contain most respectable people, wholly unused to ordinary pauper ways, it is evident that nothing can be more short-sighted than to give them only the choice between the workhouse and no help at all. A woman belonging to one of these classes is not in the least in the position of an able-bodied man; for however capable she may be, she has her hands full of work already, and cannot set out at once to earn her own and her children's bread. It is indeed astonishing to see how many women do manage to do the duty of both parents to their children with little or no help. But in these classes she cannot begin to do it till the worst moments are tided over; and it certainly seems the very best economy to help her over them without breaking up her home, separating her elder children from her, and familiarising them with the idea of going to the workhouse. To those children of respectable parents the moment is most critical. If by means of help, public or private, the mother can manage to keep them round her, until she is able to find the means of earning their bread, as well as of taking care of and training them, they have a fair probability of turning out honest and self-supporting citizens. But if she breaks down and goes into the workhouse, the chances are terribly against their ever being anything but loafers and paupers to the end of their days. In Dr. Stallard's work on "Pauperism," he truly says of widows and deserted wives and their children, "The relief of this class is the most difficult and the most important duty undertaken by the guardians of the poor. Upon its successful management the diminution of pauperism mainly depends." But the interests of children are insufficiently cared for in other ways. As regards the boarding-out of orphan and deserted children, Irish guardians, both officially and unofficially, made many efforts to obtain power to carry it into effect before they succeeded. A large proportion of Irish unions do now avail themselves of the right to

give these most helpless objects of their care the opportunity of growing up under wholesome family influences. But, in regard to various classes of children, they have not the freedom of action they ought to have, as to sending them to industrial schools and other special institutions. Moreover, they have not the power through school attendance committees, as in England, of seeing that the children of their district are educated, and so placed in the way of being self-supporting and self-respecting citizens.

The mere statement of the points which I have indicated is almost sufficient in itself to show the desirability—indeed, the necessity—of women having a much more decided share in the administration of the Poor-law than they have hitherto had in Ireland. The subjects with which the guardians of the poor have to deal are almost all what are acknowledged to be “women’s subjects,” some of them emphatically so. The care of the poor generally—and especially of women—the care of the children, towards whom pity is in no way mixed with censure; the prevention no less than the cure of sickness—these are the principal objects for which Boards of guardians exist, and they are all women’s duties on a large scale no less than a small. Even the purely formal methods by which these duties are to be done are of the sort with which women are mostly familiar. The economy of a workhouse is the economy of a house, only less various, but dealing with larger sums and quantities. The management of officials, especially the considerable staff of female officials, needs the same kind of wisdom as the management of servants. The training of girls should follow just the same rule; and if no rational attempt has usually been made at such training, it is precisely because of the impossibility of it without ladies to advise and direct. The choice of dispensary doctors, in whose hands will rest the lives of toiling fathers and mothers, and the consequent fate of whole families, must be made in the same manner—as much by observation of character as by testimony to fitness—by which a doctor for the richer household is chosen. In England this truth has already taken hold of the minds of some who try to get

public work done by sound principle rather than by custom or convenience. Their Poor-law has always permitted ladies to become guardians; but, although some ladies of property have from time to time acted as *ex-officio* guardians, it is only within the last few years that many have been elected. Last January seven ladies were elected upon London boards, and several elsewhere. The discoveries which they have made on getting to work, of evils and mistakes, omissions of the gravest sort, even wrongs and dangers—unavoidable for the most part, under a purely masculine government of the poor—have been such as very greatly to intensify the conviction of ladies that not one work-house in the kingdom ought to be left without womanly supervision. And it must be authoritative supervision; ladies must go into their painful duties—for it is painful—as of right, and not by permission—the right given them by the vote of the men and women who are their neighbours, and who trust them.

No one can do substantial good, under hard, depressing, unattractive conditions, by the dilettante methods of persuasion and coaxing. He or she must be able to go direct to the point, and speak with authority. No selected lady visitors, good as they may be, can fill this vacant place. Only those ladies who know that they have the support of the ratepayers who elected them will venture to criticise efficiently, to insist on troublesome work being done, to go where the officials may not wish them, and where often it would be quite unsuitable for men to go, and to urge new plans which they see to be wanted. A society for promoting the return of lady guardians has been formed in London, with several branches. Upon the London committee are many names entitled to carry the greatest weight, well-known practical philanthropists, Members of Parliament, and experienced officials. In this list are many Irish ladies and gentlemen who hope to help in the removal of the singular legal restriction which prevents ladies from being elected guardians in Ireland as in England. The very fact that the Irish system is so much more rigid than the English, so many things fixed by law without refer-

ence to circumstances, greatly increases the necessity for this reform. Individual cases, particular circumstances, difficulties and infirmities which affect one character differently from another, are the very matters which attract the attention and develop the anxious energy of ladies to set things right. I speak boldly on this question, because I know that I carry with me the entire sympathy of many Chairmen and Members of Boards, and I might almost say that their keen appreciation of the need for the authorised help of ladies is proportionate to their own personal and continued labours for the amelioration of distress and the prevention of the causes of it. But if their help is wanted now, it will be still more needed when the additional powers which have been advocated are granted, as they soon must be. The guardians could not justly decide upon the circumstances and capacity of women of such varied characters unless there are ladies among those who decide. The special knowledge and experience which discriminates among the inmates of a workhouse, and apportiones the kind and degree of help, will with equal energy and more hope set itself to the task of helping those whom care can keep out of it. There are among us a multitude of voluntary societies for relieving and assisting those in trouble. But there are separate spheres for voluntary and for official charity, though it is not easy to define them. Upon the harmonious co-operation of the two, however, it greatly depends whether there shall not be waste of money, and waste of power, on both sides, and whether many sufferers may not miss relief between them. Men who care for one of these forms of philanthropic energy generally care for the other also, and a large number are engaged in both; but women have hitherto only been able to work in the voluntary organisations, and even these are much hindered in their work by the difficulty of getting their experience and the views founded on it represented to the official world on any of the occasions on which the two organisations come in contact.

Therefore, to render effectual the work of such bodies as prisoners' aid societies, reformatory and rescue so-

cieties, homes for strangers and for young women, ladies' sanitary associations, societies for nursing the sick poor, for befriending young servants, for helping all sorts of strayed and friendless human creatures, there must be ladies with a legal position upon the boards of guardians, which are the appointed ultimate protectors of all such. No less are they needed there to prevent impostures of various kinds, which they can more readily detect in certain cases than men. It is by no means of small moment, either, that over large districts of the country the number of educated people who are resident is small, and to permit the ratepayers to elect ladies as well as gentlemen will greatly increase the range of satisfactory choice. As the medical charities are available for the help of the decent poor, who seek no other form of aid, ladies, who are almost all familiar with that class, ought to be appointed on dispensary committees. Some are already wardens, and in that office have found how much there is in the working of these charities which requires womanly intervention. In another important department of work, the carrying out of sanitary regulations, ladies would be much more likely to succeed in persuading and convincing the heads of poor households than rich men, whose ideas on such subjects are apt to be set down as mere crotchets and fancies by those whose conditions of life are so remote from theirs. Other duties are constantly being laid upon Boards of guardians, as the ever-increasing complexity of our social life, and, I think, I may add the ever-growing sensitiveness of the public conscience, require. Very much of this touches the interests of poor women, and still more of it touches the consciences of rich women. I think we women cannot any longer afford to delay in claiming a share in such plain duty; nor, I think, can men afford to delay in accepting their help. It is work requiring the most earnest energies of the most cultivated minds. I appeal to the consciences of both men and women in this matter. But I have not a doubt that such women will be forthcoming when once the way is open to them.

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## ART. II.—THE LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

*Address delivered by Miss ANNIE REAY BARKER, M.D., Acting Physician Midland Hospital for Women, Birmiaghams, at the opening of the Eighth Session of the London School of Medicine, for Women, October 3rd, 1881.*

LADIES,—Allow me to welcome you most cordially to the inauguration of this the Eighth Session of your School, in which you are meeting for the beginning or continuance of those studies which are to fit you for the medical profession.

It has occurred to me that as now more than 10 years have elapsed since the question of the education of women for the medical profession has become a public one; it might be interesting to those who are now working amid so many advantages, and following so well-ordered a course of study, to know something of how all this came about, and the details of the origin and development of the movement, against which there has been so much opposition in this country.

I propose to give a slight sketch of the leading events which have taken place, and the difficulties overcome, before your now flourishing School could be established and recognised. And before proceeding to do so, let me pause to congratulate you on the rapid growth and popularity of the School. Though only of so recent foundation, it already numbers nearly 40 lady-students, and is able to maintain a proud position among the schools in London, as shown by the result of examination.

As all advances and great movements can, in the first instance, be traced to individual thought and effort, so in this case we find one lady of indomitable perseverance leading the way, and fortunate in accomplishing, for herself, though beset by numerous difficulties, the requisite qualification to practise. Mrs. Anderson, of whose success we are so justly proud, passed the examination of Apothecaries' Hall in 1865. From that time, means were found to close its doors against all other women inspired by her example and desirous of following in her footsteps.

Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, whose name is familiar to you all, had been able previously to obtain registration, owing to the fact that she had been in practice before the passing of the Medical Act, in 1858. This Act provided that those only could be accounted legally qualified practitioners who were registered by the "General Council of Medical Education and Registration," and that none were entitled to registration but those who held the diploma of one of the nineteen examining bodies of Great Britain. It was, however, in 1869, that the movement really began, when Dr. Sophia Jex-Blake, whose energy has been one of the main causes of its success, made application to the Edinburgh University for the admission of women to the regular course of study for medical graduation and registration. In November of the same year, after some delay and opposition of the University authorities on the one hand, and con-

tinned urgency on the part of Dr. Jax-Blake, on the other, it was decided that arrangements might be made for separate classes, in consideration of the several ladies who were by this time desirous of qualifying for the medical profession. Accordingly the matriculation examination was passed, and classes organised by those Professors who were generous enough to sacrifice their time by giving a second series of lectures in the same Session, for the benefit of the ladies. A beginning was thus made, and some of the ladies distinguished themselves considerably in the class examinations, notably Miss Pechey, who gained the Hope Scholarship, though she was not allowed to receive her well-deserved honours. More ladies joined, and the first Session was completed satisfactorily. But new difficulties arose, the instruction could be pursued no further, and the classes came to a standstill, as the other Professors were unwilling to provide the classes requisite for graduation. It seemed as if, after admitting these ladies as ordinary "Cives Academicæ Edinensis," it was the bounden duty of the University to complete their compact with them, and at least to provide means whereby those already matriculated might arrive at graduation. This was not, however, the view taken by the University authorities. Recourse was had to legal opinion on both sides, but this proved *not* to be unanimous, and so, to bring matters to a crisis, it was thought advisable to have the question decided by a Court of Law. The first judgment was given in favour of the ladies studying, but the University taking the suit to a higher Court, this decision was, in June, 1873, reversed by a bare majority of 1 out of 13. Here legal proceedings ended, for the expense of litigation, the whole of which had hitherto fallen on the ladies and their friends, would have been too great, and the delay too considerable, to allow of their carrying the proceedings to the House of Lords, where the question might perhaps have been decided in their favour.

The number of ladies studying had now increased. They had in the meantime been occupying themselves with classes in the extra-mural School, which would have been of value, if the feasibility of graduation at the University had been decided at law. And another step had meanwhile been gained, their admission into the Wards of the Edinburgh Infirmary. This was accomplished after much opposition on the part of the Medical Staff, extending over a period of several years. But all possibility of further education being for the present indefinitely postponed, the lady students who had been working for so many years in the hope of graduating in Edinburgh, dispersed, some going abroad to complete their studies. The wisest course now seemed to bring the question before Parliament.

A Bill "to remove doubts as to the powers of the University of Scotland to admit women as students, and to grant degrees to women," was introduced into Parliament, in 1874, by Mr. Cowper Temple, and other gentlemen, and supported by memorials from twenty-six Professors of the Scotch Universities, the Town Councils of Edinburgh and Aberdeen, also from various parts of the country, &c. The Bill failed to pass. At this juncture the feeling was gaining ground that it would be wise to make London the centre of medical education for women. To this feeling your School owes its origin. Its establishment was rapidly realised, thanks to the

untiring energy of Dr. Anstie, who laboured so ably and perseveringly for its formation, but who unhappily did not live to see its completion. The first Session of your School began in October, 1874. After it had been established and organised in the present locale, and a number of efficient Professors, most of them attached to other medical schools, had been found willing to act on its staff, there remained still two further difficulties—that of gaining recognition for the School by some of the examining bodies, and obtaining the requisite Hospital instruction.

The scene of further progress was now transferred to Parliament. In 1875, the Government directed their attention to the question, and at the instance of Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., promised it their consideration, during the recess. They consulted the Medical Council on Mr. Cowper Temple's Bill. The Council, though not giving their approval to the movement, stated fairly and prudently that they were not "prepared to say that women ought to be excluded from the profession," thus abstaining from placing difficulties in the way. Other Bills were, in 1876, brought before the House, Mr. Cowper Temple's second Bill, for the registration of certain foreign Medical degrees, and one by Mr. Russell Gurney. The former was withdrawn, as Government had promised to support Mr. Russell Gurney's enabling Bill. This Bill intended to enable the examining bodies of Great Britain to admit women to their examination, and to confer on them qualifications in the same way as on men, was passed with slight alterations suggested by the Medical Council late in the Session of 1876.

But though an important step had been made, and ample powers thus obtained, some anxiety was felt as to their acceptance by any examining body. The University of Edinburgh even petitioned against receiving these powers. It was left for the King's and Queen's College of Physicians, Ireland, on the application of Miss Pechey, to take the initiative by opening their examinations to the students of your School. Since this examining body has had the courage and generosity to act thus liberally to women, and throw open to them its diplomas, in 1877, I am happy to say that twenty-six women, fourteen of whom had been partially, and six entirely educated at your School, have been able to avail themselves of this portal into the profession. They have successfully passed the required examination, and become legally qualified to practise.

There still remained the necessity for obtaining entrance into some recognised Hospital, without which all other advantages and opportunities for supplying a medical education to women would be of no use. Through the persevering efforts and tact of your Treasurer, Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., and the courtesy and feeling of justice displayed on the part of the authorities of the Royal Free Hospital, this Institution, to which there was no male school attached, was opened in 1877, to women students.

Still later, in 1878, the University of London, happily true to its Liberal traditions, threw open its examinations to women, and gave recognition to your School, and so another broad and honourable entrance into the profession has been secured.

We now hear that the Royal University, Ireland, is also con-

templating the recognition of your School, and the admission of women to its degrees.\* The Irish have ever been among our best friends. It only remains for women now to show themselves worthy of the advantages which have been gained, at the cost of so much unwearied determination and perseverance on the part of the active pioneers of the movement, and their friends.

And now I have the very pleasant duty of congratulating you on the way in which those studying here have hitherto worked to maintain the dignity and reputation of the School, and at this time I am especially happy to call to mind the brilliant achievements of the ladies at the recent examination of the London University, for the first M.B. Those who went up for examination in July last have not only passed, but have all obtained honours. Miss Prideaux, who holds the enviable position of heading the honours list of men and women candidates, has, as you know, succeeded in taking the Gold Medal and Exhibition in Anatomy, a distinction which of itself speaks, without further comment, as to the education she has received, and as to her high ability and attainments. The names of two other ladies appear prominently in the list of honours; those of Mrs. Scharlieb, who has obtained First Class Honours in *Materia Medica* and *Pharmaceutical Chemistry*, and of Miss Tomlinson, who has taken Second Class Honours in *Organic Chemistry*.

In the recent Preliminary Scientific Examination, also, honours have been gained by Miss Bernard, another of your fellow students. These results clearly prove that the instruction obtainable at this School is equal to the requirements of the highest standard of medical examination.

I congratulate these ladies on their honour so well deserved. They will, I am sure, continue working with the same zeal in their further course of study, and will, I hope, meet with equal success in the examinations yet to come. I am glad to see that of the thirty-eight students, whose names are at present enrolled on the register of the School, eleven are preparing for the same degree. They are, I think, wise in setting before themselves so high an aim, for it is desirable that as many ladies as possible shall acquire the highest degree obtainable. And not only are the ladies working well as students in your School, as attested by the numbers in regular attendance, and the result of examinations, but they are beginning to spread themselves gradually and quietly over the country, and are becoming centres of usefulness in the towns in which they are establishing themselves. They are supplying, I think, a need which has been long felt, and which according to my own experience is growing, or perhaps I should say, making itself more apparent, and more frequently expressed, now that there is a possibility of obtaining the help of skilled women Doctors.

Besides the two ladies, Miss Butler and Miss Waterston, who have gone abroad to India and South Africa as fully qualified Medical Missionaries, there are already fourteen practising in England and Scotland. Eight of these are in London, two in Edinburgh,

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\* This has since been granted.

and four in Bristol, Leeds, Manchester, and Birmingham. And the ladies settled in these towns are not merely working in their own interest. They are devoting a portion of their time to that part of the community which needs, and appreciates, the help of a woman doctor, none the less because they are poor and unable to offer adequate remuneration. By their own exertions, and the help of friends, dispensaries have been established for women and children, or for women alone, in nearly all of these towns, some of which have taken the form of Provident Dispensaries.

You all know the success of the New Hospital for Women, Marylebone, founded by Mrs. Anderson, to which there are attached four Acting Physicians and a Resident House Surgeon. As well as its benefit to poor women, I believe this was the only one that was available to lady students before the opening of the Royal Free Hospital, and I think I am right in saying that any students arrived at a stage to appreciate the practice there, are still made welcome. A provident dispensary has been begun within the last year by Mrs. Marshall, M.D., and promises to do well. In Bristol also a successful dispensary has been formed, and carried on for some time, by the energy of Dr. Eliza Dunbar, one in Leeds, by Dr. E. Pechey, and another in Edinburgh, owing its origin to Dr. Jex-Blake, who attends with Dr. Agnes McLaren, as visiting Physician. We have news of still another, begun quite recently, in May last, in Manchester, by Dr. Anna Dahms, which seems to be so much appreciated by the women attending, that the small nominal fee of 3d. each time has had to be slightly raised, to keep the number of patients within due bounds.

You will understand that not only the raising of these institutions, but the carrying them on, involves no slight cost of time and trouble, when I state that in some cases not merely is medical advice given by the lady who attends, but the dispensing also devolves on her, at least as a temporary arrangement.

In Birmingham, where I am myself practising, there has been much progress made, more perhaps than in any other provincial town, and to this I am happy to have the opportunity of testifying and attribute it to the fairness, practical good sense, and kind feeling, with which we have been received by the lay people and by the medical profession of the town.

The Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women, founded in 1871, had the courage to appoint a lady, who had just then graduated at Zurich, as their first House Surgeon. This was at a time when the prospects of the movement were not so bright as at present. Since the appointment of Dr. Louisa Atkins, who is now one of your own Professors, there has been a succession of women filling this post, and though at present there is no House Surgeon, owing to special circumstances, the authorities hope again to hold out the post to women. In 1878 I was myself appointed Acting Physicians to this Hospital, having previously held the post of House Surgeon. This is, I believe, the only Hospital in the Kingdom where men and women meet, as colleagues, on the Honorary Staff. We must hope that others will ere long follow this example. In the same town there are other appointments for which women are eligible. In

1879, the first lady House Surgeon, Miss Clark, M.D., was appointed to the Children's Hospital, on the resignation of one of the resident gentlemen. The innovation succeeded so well, and gave such universal satisfaction, that a second lady, Miss Ker, M.D., was afterwards appointed, and for the past year both senior and junior posts have been held by women.

During the last year the Medical Institute, which occupies an important site in the town, has admitted women as members. This gain I look upon as one of peculiar value, coming, as it does, from an Institute where the direction and authority rest entirely with medical men.

I should also mention another institution in this town recently opened to both men and women, though not entirely concerned in Medical education: Sir Josiah Mason's College, owing to the wise provisions of its beneficent founder, affords women, equally with men, the means of study in their first years of preparation for the London University.

Though so many difficulties have been overcome, and clear and open pathways secured into the profession, we unfortunately find there are many prejudices still to be lived down. It is somewhat unpleasant to remember that we are even now subject to a large amount of unjust treatment. We have been reminded of this recently, in our exclusion from the meetings of the International Medical Congress, which has elicited so much comment, especially from those outside the profession. It is a matter much to be regretted that, as women are now acknowledged members of the profession, and have hitherto been welcome at the meetings of the Congress when held in other countries, on the late occasion of their meeting in London, they should have been for the first time excluded. We particularly deplore the fact that this should have occurred in our own country, where fair play and justice are supposed to be popular.

We shall, I hope, each try to do our best to remove these prejudices, not by showing ill-will in return, but by gaining for ourselves, and so for all in the centres in which we are placed, the respect which comes in the end for honest and true work, and by showing that though we have entered a profession, we have lost none of the womanliness, refinement and dignity of true gentlewomen. I think we may, however, perhaps take warning from this narrow-minded exclusive treatment, not to allow the growth of any such feeling among ourselves. It should incite us to take special care not to fall into the same mistake, but to act always in a large-minded and liberal manner to our fellow-women in the same profession, and to treat them with the greatest courtesy, however much we may differ from them in opinion.

The great success of the Reception, given by the Council of your School on the 5th of August last, may be looked upon as a subject for congratulation. It was gratifying that amidst the other pressing engagements and festivities of the week, so many distinguished members of the Congress and other friends, accepted the invitation of the Council and found time to visit the School, thereby showing the interest they felt in the movement.

The following foreigners of note were recognized among those present: From France—Drs. Gueneau de Mussy, Laudolt, Fauvel and Mallez, of Paris; Dr. E. Moure, Bordeaux, Dr. A. Baréty, Nice, and Dr. Victor Malet.

From Germany—Professors Pflüger and Rosenthal, of Berlin; and Professor Busch, Surgeon to the Empress of Germany, Professor Binz, of Bonn, and Dr. E. Fischer.

From Switzerland—Professors Müller and Leichtheim, of Berne, and Professor Dufoure, of Lausanne.

From Russia—Professor Levschine, of Kazan.

From Italy—Dr. Centini, of Pisa.

From Roumania—Dr. Hepitès, of Galatz, Professor Rosander, Dr. Van Dooremal, and Dr. Heare.

From America—Dr. Osler, of McGill University, Mr. King, &c.

Of our own countrymen you would be pleased to welcome Dr. Carpenter, F.R.S., Dr. Luther Holden, F.R.S., Dr. Ray Lankester, F.R.S., Dr. Ackland, F.R.S., Regius Professor of Medicine, Oxford, Dr. Sieveking, F.R.S., Physician to the Princess of Wales; Dr. Bristowe, of St. Thomas's; Professors Struthers and Stephenson, of Aberdeen; Dr. Grimshaw and Professor McAlister, of Dublin; Professor McLean, of Netley; Deputy-Inspector-General Colam, R.N., Surgeon-Major Ewart, Dr. Saundby, Mr. Ross Jordan, and Mr. Eales, of Birmingham; Dr. Octavius Sturges, of Westminster; Mr. Clover, Mr. Norton, and Dr. King Chambers, of St. Mary's Hospital; Dr. Rabagliati, of Bradford; Dr. Theodore Acland, Dr. J. W. Byers, of Belfast; Dr. Hayes of King's College Hospital; Dr. Cockle, Dr. Allen Sturge, Mr. Gant, and Mr. Shuter of the Royal Free Hospital.

Having cursorily sketched the development of the movement, and briefly reviewed the past position and difficulties of lady students, let me point out to you your present advantages, and urge upon you their rightful appreciation.

A glance over your programme shows that you are provided with a most efficient staff of professors, that your classes are arranged methodically, that your Lectures, Dissections, and Hospital Attendance follow in due sequence, according to a definite and well arranged plan. There is no taking a second or third years' class in your first year, because it might not again be obtainable; or of waiting a session until others could be organised, excluded at the same time from all Hospital Attendance. Such—not to speak of the heavier fees paid for classes—were some of the irregularities and difficulties which those who began in Edinburgh had to accept in their first years of study.

Some of you are here for your first session. We are glad to welcome you, in the belief that you are coming as *bonâ fide* students, to work diligently for your own education, and to maintain the *prestige* already gained for the School. I hope you have thought well over your choice of the profession, and have counted the cost of devoting yourselves to it, and are about to enter the ranks of students with the firm resolve of giving all your energies to the various subjects which form the curriculum of study.

You will probably have been surprised in looking over the pro-

gramme, at the wide range of subjects it embraces. And you may perhaps have felt inclined, while yet on the threshold, to draw back from entering on a course which calls for the study of so many sciences. I think I may assure you that you need not on this account be discouraged, if, as we hope, you are pledging yourselves to work in good faith. The subjects are many, but they are all necessary. You will begin with the simpler, those which are called accessory, such as Botany, Chemistry, and Zoology. These you will find interesting in themselves, quite apart from their bearing on medicine. You may even be tempted to give them more time than you can legitimately allow, in view of qualifying yourself for your profession. But having grasped the principles of these, you will naturally arrive later on at more complex subjects, such as Pathology, and Therapeutics, &c., which, though more practical would be almost unintelligible without the foundation structure with which you began.

Observe for yourselves, take nothing for granted that you can verify—a second-hand knowledge of Anatomy, Chemistry, Practical Physiology, and Clinical Medicine obtainable from books and lectures, will never serve you. You must frequent assiduously the dissecting room, laboratory, and hospital wards, and gain a practical and personal acquaintance with these subjects. You will always find that those facts and principles which you have taken trouble to acquire by your own observation, will remain most permanently in your mind.

I would urge upon you strongly to devote much time to Anatomy. To many it is not so interesting as some of the other sciences, and often seems to impose a wearisome burden on the memory, but it is most essential that you should get a thorough and accurate knowledge of it, lying, as it does, at the root of all surgical and medical practice, and your student-time will afford you the only opportunity you will have of doing this.

As to your mode of study, I should like to advise you to work regularly and methodically at your classes, dissecting, and hospital. You will find it much the best plan. By so doing you will be gradually cultivating your powers of observation, strengthening your judgment, and gaining daily a certain amount of knowledge. All these acquirements will stand you in good stead, not merely in passing your examination, which after all is of secondary importance; but in the practice of the art of healing and in your endeavours to investigate some of the numerous questions, which in every department of medical science stand awaiting solution.

I lay great stress on method and regularity in your manner of work, as I think it all important, however great your ability may be. "Men waste half their lives from want of method," said Sir Charles Bell. It is the best way of mastering the subject of study and incorporating it, as it were, among your possessions.

After attending the requisite classes for the day, you will, I think, find it advisable not merely to read over your notes and think about them, but to consult the best and newest text-books that you will find recommended by your professors, and compare your notes with



them, looking out for illustrations of what you read, in the museums which are open to you, in the practical classes arranged for you, and in the hospital wards.

By following in this line, the subjects you are studying, will be deeply impressed on your mind, and you will have gained a sure, if not perhaps rapid knowledge, which will remain always with you, the principles, at least, though the individual facts may be forgotten in the lapse of time. Spasmodic and irregular study is much to be deprecated. You may, but I hope you will not, go on from day to day attending classes, but taking no further interest after they are over, leaving the consideration and real study of what you hear until some accidental occasion, or until the eve of your examination. You may even pass your examination creditably by pursuing the pernicious plan of cramming; but you will never by this means succeed in gaining even a fair acquaintance with your subject, a mastery of it being out of the question.

The knowledge so quickly and readily acquired will as speedily escape from your grasp, and your mind will be left a blank, or only impressed with a few scattered and ill-connected fragments, which you can in no way utilise. Besides this, you will have missed the training, mental and moral, which a continual thoughtful and honest study would have gained for you. For apart from all consideration of preparation for a profession, the education to be derived from so many and varied sciences and of human nature on so large a scale, is acknowledged to be the most liberal, wide, and ennobling in its character of any that have received public sanction.

Not only are the faculties of the mind, as in the other learned professions, exercised and trained, and the habit of logical thinking acquired, but the senses receive an education which is quite special to the Medical Profession. Descartes has said that if it be possible to perfect human nature, it will be through the medium of the medical sciences.

I hope that those of you who are returning to study will find as you have experienced before, the pleasure of work when one is in good health and spirits. I should strongly advise you to be careful of the former, and in no way to tamper with it, either by over-study or otherwise. I venture to warn you against a temptation common to women, that of omitting to take sufficient daily out-door exercise. I do not, of course, recommend the overtaxing of one's muscular powers.

One cannot make much headway in study, if one turns to it with one's physical powers in a state of exhaustion. One's mental powers suffer in the fatigue, and are incapable of sustained attention or real work of any kind. On the other hand, one does not, I believe, reap half the advantages from one's opportunities if one is always studying, as it were, neglecting to take a proper amount of recreation. The every-day adage, which you will pardon me for calling to mind, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," applies equally to the student as to the school-boy.

You will have the principal instruments of modern accurate clinical and pathological investigation placed in your hands, the sphymograph, the microscope the laryngoscope, the ophthalmoscope, and

spectroscope. Acquire as much manipulative skill as possible in the use of these handmaids of science. Most of them will probably be helpful to you in practice. In the diagnosis of disease they are becoming more and more necessary, and are opening up wide ranges for further investigation. The microscope, especially, in the hands of M. Pasteur and many others, has surprised us of late by its wonderful revelations in the germ origin of disease, affording as yet, perhaps, but a glimpse of what remains to be discovered in the causation of zymotic disease, and prompting the further development of sanitary science and the practice of preventive medicine—the medicine of the future.

Others among you are nearing the goal of your ambition, you are in the last year of your study, and are making plans for yourself for the future. One of your chief difficulties will be that of determining where your sphere is to be. That will be decided by circumstances into which I cannot enter—I am afraid I can give you but little advice on this point.

There are many large towns in which there are no ladies as yet practising, and it will, I think, be advantageous to have more than one lady in each town for mutual help. We are frequently hearing from many competent to judge, of the real demand there is in India for fully qualified women doctors, either as medical missionaries or as ready to engage in purely medical work. There are few resident hospital appointments open as yet to women. It will be of great advantage to you to occupy any such post that may be obtainable before commencing practice yourselves; you will thus acquire much confidence in dealing with disease, while you are yet undertaking but a minimum amount of responsibility.

You will not consider that you have come to the end of study when your student career is over; you will keep up the habit of regular study if you wish to become scientific and skilful physicians.

In the present period, medical science has acquired such large dimensions, and has been divided into so many departments, that you will, I think, find it wise on beginning practice, besides keeping up with the advance of medical science generally, to take up some special branch, one perhaps you are most interested in, or have most opportunity of studying, in working it up, in all its details, knowing all about it, reading all the literature on the subject, and perhaps contributing to it your selves, so that you may be able to speak with authority, and that others may feel the value of your opinion. This, I think, you will find the most satisfactory mode of pursuing your profession, not only on your own account, but also in the interest of your patients.

In all departments of medical science there are large fields open and available for original research, and questions which require careful and accurate thought and observation for their elucidation. It should, I think, be among your highest aims to take up certain of these and contribute at least something to their solution. The possibility of arriving at some definite result like this, which will add to the general store of knowledge, constitutes a large part of the nobility of that profession which Sir James Paget has so happily described as one of novelty, utility, and charity.

In conclusion, I hope you will go forth to practise, strong in the determination to follow humbly after truth in its broadest sense; be ready to accept it, acknowledge and act up to it whenever it presents itself to you, sharing the conviction that there is something in the world better than fortune, better than health itself—which is devotion to knowledge, which is devotion to truth.

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### ART. III.—WOMEN POLITICIANS.

*La Semaine Française*, a French paper published in London, contained an article on October 29th on political women. The article which is signed Frederic David contains little that is new on the subject; the great crime, or rather misfortune of women who enter political life is that they cease to charm and to please. "To defend," he says, "with more or less noise what they are pleased to call women's rights, they have nearly given up being women. In demanding equality from men, they have almost achieved similarity. They have become voluntarily more disagreeable than we are. They know it and resign themselves, thus giving an example of disinterestedness, almost heroism, of which men politicians have not an idea. It is useless devotion, but it is impossible not to admire the powerful faith which accomplishes this miracle of deciding a woman to change herself into a man. It is impossible not to salute all these heroines, these martyrs of a false evangel; Mdlle. Hubertine Auclert, the *citoyenne* Cadolle, the *citoyenne* Rouzade, Mdlle. Maria Deraisme, Mme. Paule Minck, and the chief of the quire, the terrible Louise Michel, still crowned with the laurels of Noumea. \* \* \* I pity them—they have thrown away their finest ornament, they have sacrificed on the altar of politics their most brilliant jewel. They have given a more striking proof of their renunciation than the Carmelite who cuts off her hair before entering a cloister, they have lost what is more precious for a woman than youth or life. They have ceased to be amiable."

It is not so long ago since banter of this kind was

frequently seen in English papers. The *Saturday Review*, and others of the same type, from time to time uttered doleful prophecies concerning the sure decline of all feminine charms incident to the incursions of women on the tabooed realm of politics; we might have thought that crewel work, drawing room music, and five o'clock tea gossip could not have survived the first vote given by a woman at the poll. We are gradually growing out of this way of writing. Custom, which is more influential with the majority than argument, shows us women year after year taking part in elections more or less political in character, and yet their houses are as prettily arranged, and their dress as well attended to, as if they had no other aim in life than to please or to charm. The fine arrows of ridicule never kept any woman who really cared about a political object, from taking her share in doing what she could to further it.

*La Semaine Française* admits, perhaps without meaning it seriously, the superior disinterestedness of the woman politician. "A man," it says, "throws himself into politics to make his fortune; it becomes his trade; he lives by it. The woman is not sustained by any hope of this kind. She knows by experience that her labour will not enrich her." Addison in his good-humoured raillery at the women politicians of his day, gave almost similar testimony to their directness of purpose and zeal. "A woman is too sincere to mitigate the fury of her principles with temper and discretion, and to act with that caution and reservedness which are requisite in our sex." Now it is something of this earnestness of effort and self-abnegation for the general welfare which is very requisite for political life. Just as no philanthropic work has ever been carried on without the "enthusiasm of doing good"—John Howard, Elizabeth Fry, and Thomas Clarkson, were enthusiasts of the first order—political life needs disinterested and conscientious work, apart from all considerations of self-interest, and what is characterised as the "sentiment and impulsiveness" of women may become, when organised, a factor of immense good for the national welfare.

A hearty testimony to the actual influence for good

of English women on politics has been lately made by an American writer, the Rev. George Washburn, D.D. We quote it from the *Egis*.—

“We may accept it as a fact that women in England play an important part in politics. I think that all those who are personally acquainted with English society have been impressed with this fact. The wife of an English statesman takes it for granted that she is to be her husband's chief political ally. Young ladies devote themselves to the study of political questions, and fit themselves to be the wives of statesmen. One of the most distinguished political leaders in England told me, not long ago, that his daughter was one of his most trusted advisers on questions of state. She had devoted her life to the study of these questions, and was certainly much better informed than many Members of Parliament. I once asked the wife of a distinguished English ambassador if she was as much devoted to politics as most ladies in her position. She said, ‘Of course I am. It is a part of my work.’

“So far as I can judge, the influence of English women on politics at the present time is not in any way corrupt or demoralising. It is based on talent and carefully acquired knowledge, and is not used, as it once was, to favour corrupt legislation and money getting. Of course, there are weak-minded women, as there are stupid men, whose social position leads them to dabble in politics, whose good sense does not equal their ambition, and who sometimes make mischief; but on the whole their influence is a decided advantage to the state.”

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#### ART. IV.—EARLY SHOP HOURS.

THE meeting which took place in Dublin last month in favour of the Early Closing Movement was of a very different cast to many that have been held. As a rule the effort to secure the so-called “protection” of short

hours for women is coupled with the distinct repudiation of any desire for such protection for men. Instinctively men feel that protected people work at a disadvantage, and if they are not conscious of desiring to place added difficulties in the way of the employment of women, and consider legal interference with contracts an unmitigated benefit, they are, as a rule, very careful to disclaim such benefits for themselves. The organization in Dublin, however, was on a broader basis. Some of the men had got fair hours, but there were a number of them, and most of the women, still labouring under the disabilities of longer hours. They had now incorporated both men and women into the movement, and the meeting was called in the hope of rousing general sympathy among the people. The report stated that the small drapery establishments were, as a whole, as anxious for short hours as their employes, but could not stir unless all were united, and that the majority suggested "that from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Monday to Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday would meet all their requirements."

Whatever change the society proposes to make for women is to be made for men also, and thus legislation on the subject, if they obtained it, would not injure or benefit one sex at the expense of the other. If the Dublin workpeople can get by agreement with their employers any reduction of hours, we shall be heartily glad of it, though even if they attain their desires, they will still be worse off than the same class in London. But we trust they will obtain this by voluntary means and not by an appeal to Parliament. A law is expensive and inelastic: expensive because it requires a large army of officials to see that it be enforced, inelastic because it can make no allowance for exceptional circumstances. Its favours are apt to be counterbalanced by stringent penalties, and the weaker, the poorer, and above all the unrepresented sex is the first to feel its stringency. This would even be the case were the law intended to be equal; but the chances are that any legislation will be on the lines of Earl Stanhope's Bill which will make employers indisposed, even with the make-weight of low wages, to employ

women at all. The Dublin shopmen and still more the Dublin shopwomen will do wisely to settle their own difficulties with their employers rather than appeal to legal arbitration.

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#### ART. V.—WOMEN AND AGRICULTURE.

ON October 20th, Miss E. A. Ormerod, F.M.S., delivered an interesting and instructive lecture at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. This lady is well known in connection with her inquiries on the subject of insect pests, and their prevention. Possessed of the real genius of research, she has devoted years to the destruction of the noxious insects which destroy the crops of the farmer, sometimes reducing whole districts to barrenness, after the labourer has expended months of toil through heat and frost, through drought and rain, in the endeavour to produce a crop which shall yield him a livelihood. A contemporary says:—

“Miss Ormerod is a lady of high attainments, has studied much, and is animated with the most lively desire to benefit her fellow-creatures. The direction she has followed in her studies was first indicated by the pest of caterpillars, by which the neighbourhood in which she resides was overrun, after a mild winter and a cold, wet spring. Instead of sitting down to weep and moan over the desolation caused by the plague, like her fair neighbours, whose gardens as well as her own were completely ravaged, Miss Ormerod immediately set about, not merely the reparation of the evil, but the destruction of its cause, and long before other districts had witnessed the departure of the dreadful visitors, Miss Ormerod's garden had resumed its wonted aspect of cheerfulness and bloom. The account of the diverse experiments, with their inevitable failure, so long as she was content to follow the instructions laid down in the multitude of books upon the subject she had been led to study, is most amusing. It was not till she had resolved to take the law into her own hands that she succeeded in obtaining a result. Careful watching, patient study, night vigilance, all were necessary to effect the object in view. Insect life is tenacious, as we all know and it takes great pains and labour to extinguish the vital spark of the earth-worm, while philosophers sneer at the comparative ease with which the strongest human life may be put an end to. From this first success Miss Ormerod was led to examine more closely into the habits and existence of the insects which prey upon our fields and

woods, and her labours have been rewarded with the most successful results in many cases. The farmers of Essex and Devon hesitate not to declare that the benefit derived from Miss Ormerod's printed reports have been of more use than all the lectures and scientific exhortations with which the agricultural meetings and farmers' clubs have inundated those counties during the last few years."

Her "Manual of Practical Remedies for the Ravages of Injurious Insects on our Food Crops, Timber, and Fruit Trees," is written in good plain English that every farmer can understand and apply. In the same way in her lecture at Cirencester she pointed out that it would clear away many of the difficulties with which many persons believed the study of economic entomology to be surrounded if they would but consider what it was they needed to know, and how much there were already acquainted with. It was unfortunate that the general idea of what was needed was that we should be able to take up any insect we might chance to meet with, and name it straight off. This was very far from being the case. What farmers, gardeners, and foresters really required was a general knowledge of the appearance and of the habits of the insect pests throughout the three stages of their lives; but this knowledge was not required with regard to many kinds. There were, generally speaking, only about 100 kinds that were commonly injurious to any very great extent in this country to our food crops, forest trees, and hardy fruits. If we took fruit, &c., grown under glass, so as to include the phylloxera of the vine and exceptional attacks, probably 150 would be the number that would not be exceeded. These would include all that need be studied. We are glad to say that she put in a plea for the encouragement of insectivorous birds, as their presence indicates the presence of a large amount of insect life.

The *Journal of Horticulture*, August 25th, contained an account of the death and public funeral, at Ghent, of Madame Van Houtte, a Belgian lady who, descended from a Flemish family of honourable position, was the fellow labourer of her husband in his great horticultural business at the Royal Nurseries, Gendbrugge, which she had successfully conducted since his death, on May 9th, 1876, assisted by her family and skilled



foremen. The deceased lady combined with a singularly kind and sympathetic disposition an extraordinary capacity for business, and for twelve hours every day she laboured unceasingly in the conduct of the establishment, and with her accomplished daughters gave to everything, including business and foreign correspondence, personal attention, the practical management of the nursery devolving on her son, M. Louis Van Houtte, and the highly skilled and confidential foreman, M. Charles Van Eechaute. Still, Madame Van Houtte was the head of the family, and the mournful blank caused by her death is felt as a calamity throughout the establishment. She was seventy-one at her death.

## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### LONDON UNIVERSITY.

#### B.A. EXAMINATIONS.

THE following ladies have passed the last B.A. Examinations:

#### FIRST DIVISION—

AUCLAY, Catherine Eyre, Bedford.  
 BROWN, Clara, Bedford and Waterloo High School.  
 COLLIE, Susan Margaret, Ladies', Cheltenham.  
 FINDON, Susan Emily, North London Collegiate School, and private study.  
 MACLEANE, Marion Isabel, Ladies', Cheltenham.  
 NIMMO, Margaret Jane, University and private tuition.  
 RICKETT, Mary Ellen, Bedford.  
 WELLS, Susanna Emily, University.

#### SECOND DIVISION—

DICKER, Emily Constance, Bedford and North London.

#### B.Sc. EXAMINATION.

TWO ladies have passed in the First Division:—

BRYANT, Sophia, University College and private study.  
 EVES, Florence Elizabeth, Newnham.

#### OXFORD.

At a recent examination held by the Oxford Association for the Education of Women, an open scholarship

of £30 a year for two years was awarded to Miss Mary Watson, of Somerville Hall, and one of £25 for one year to Miss Maud Thompson, of Somerville Hall. At the same examination an exhibition of £35 a year for three years, given by the Clothworkers' Company, and tenable only at Somerville Hall, was awarded to Miss Bayliss, of the Egbaston High School, and one of £25 a year for two years, also tenable only at Somerville Hall, to Miss Chambers. The exhibition tenable at Lady Margaret Hall was not awarded.

THE London School Board is making full inquiry into the charges made against the management of the St. Paul's Industrial School. Mrs. Surr alone has thirty-two witnesses to call; this lady was the first to direct inquiry to be made into the abuses of the school. The painful disclosures of the cruelty practised on the children have amply justified her course.

A SCHOLARSHIP of £300 has been presented to the Princess Helena College, on its removal to Ealing, by Miss Mure, in memory of her parents, who, with Miss Mure herself, were interested, in 1819, in the founding of the College in memory of Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales by her Majesty Queen Charlotte.

#### WOMEN AS POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

Another important decision has been given by the Local Government Board, which will affect the election of women as guardians. At the election in March last of the Board of Guardians for Barnet Union, Mrs. Anne Shaw, a lady farmer, was nominated for the parish of Elstree, Hertfordshire, which returns one Guardian only to the Board. No other candidate having been nominated, it was believed that Mrs. Shaw had been duly returned. But the Clerk to the Board, Mr. Byfield, took upon himself to declare that the nomination was invalid on two grounds; 1st, That it did not appear that she was a widow or spinster, in which capacity alone, in his opinion, she would be entitled to act as Guardian; and secondly, her nomination was filled in one of the street posters, and therefore he could not regard it as a nomination within the meaning of the Act.

On the 7th of April, Mrs. Shaw addressed a letter to

the Local Government, with whom appeal lies, of which the following is a copy:

"To the Secretary of the Local Government Board.

"The Firs, Elstree, Herts.

"Sir,—I enclose copy of a letter I addressed to Mr. Byfield, Clerk to the Barnet Board of Guardians, and also his reply to me. I shall be obliged by your informing me whether both, or either of the objections to my nomination alleged by Mr. Byfield is valid, since I am informed by my proposer and seconder that they, in common with a large body of the ratepayers, are dissatisfied with the decision of the Clerk, and intend, if possible, to get it reversed. You will observe that the effect of such decision is, that the important parish of Elstree is now unrepresented—no one else having been nominated as Guardian for this parish; and, under these circumstances, I contend I ought to have been returned as Guardian, notwithstanding technical flaws (if any) in the nomination papers. Mr. Byfield does not allege that he did not know—what as a matter of fact is well known—namely, that I am a widow; and the second ground which he alleges appears (although I have never seen the nomination papers) so trivial that I cannot believe he relies much upon the first one.—I have the honour to be, your most obedient servant,

"ANNE SHAW."

This letter was acknowledged by Mr. Owen, Assistant Secretary of the Local Government Board, but no further notice was taken of it, and on the 2nd of May, Mrs. Shaw wrote again asking whether they considered her nomination void, adding that she was the only ratepayer of the name in the whole district, and had resided there twenty-two years, and that her husband's, Dr. Shaw's, death being well known, it had probably not been thought necessary to state that she was a widow. This letter was acknowledged, and she was informed that the Local Government would make her question the subject of investigation. On the 13th of June, Mrs. Shaw received the following announcement (the italics are our own)—

"Local Government Board,

"Whitehall, S.W., 13th June, 1881.

"Madam,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to state that they have had under their consideration the question which you have raised as to the validity of the decision of the Returning Officer in the recent election of Guardians of the Poor of the Barnet Union, in rejecting your nomination as Guardian of the Poor for the parish of Elstree as invalid. The Board learn from their correspondence with the Returning Officer that he rejected your nomination on the ground that it was inserted in the form of nomination paper contained in one of the bills intended for use in posting the notices of the election, and that the description, 'In-

dependent Lady,' in the nomination paper, was, in his opinion, insufficient. With regard to the first objection, the Board may state that, in their opinion, there was no ground for rejecting the nomination merely because it was written on one of the bills above referred to. As to the second ground of objection, the Board consider that this also fails. It appears to them that the designation, 'Independent Lady,' in the column headed 'quality or calling,' was an adequate description. The Returning Officer, in contending that the description in the nomination paper was insufficient, states that it did not appear that you were a widow or spinster, in which capacity alone you would be entitled to act as Guardian. The Board do not concur in this view. *No woman is entitled to act as a Guardian in the capacity of widow or spinster. She is only qualified to be elected as Guardian in consequence of being a person rated to the poor rate for property of the requisite rateable value.* The Board consider that, as in one of the nominations you are described as 'Mrs. Anne Shaw,' residing at 'The Firs, Boreham Wood,' and an 'Independent Lady,' this description was amply sufficient to enable the Returning Officer to identify you with the person who was entered in the rate book as rated for the property called 'The Firs' at Boreham Wood. Upon this view of the case the Board consider that the decision of the Returning Officer cannot be sustained. As, therefore, your nomination in other respects is admitted to be valid, and you were, at the time of the election, duly qualified to act as an elective Guardian, the Board are of opinion that you have been duly elected as Guardian of the Poor for the parish of Elstree, and they will shortly proceed to issue an order deciding accordingly.

I am, Madam, your obedient servant,

HUGH OWEN, jun., Assistant Secretary.

"To Mrs. Shaw, The Firs, Elstree, Herts."

On the 6th of August this order was issued:—

"To the Guardians of the Poor of the Barnet Union in the counties of Hertford and Middlesex:

"To the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the parish of Elstree, in the said Union:

"To Anne Shaw, of the Firs, Elstree, widow, and to all others whom it may concern.

"Whereas the Local Government Board, by a general order dated the 14th day of February, 1877, addressed, among others, to the Guardians of the Poor of the said Barnet Union, prescribed regulations relating to the election of Guardians of the Poor in the said Union:

"And whereas by an order of the Poor Law Commissioners one guardian is directed to be elected for the said parish of Elstree:

"And whereas proceedings for the election of a guardian of the Poor for the said parish took place in the month of March, 1881, and the said Anne Shaw was nominated for the office of Guardian of the Poor for the said parish, but the returning officer rejected such nomination as invalid:

"And whereas a question having arisen as to the right of the

said Anne Shaw to act as an elective Guardian of the Poor for the said parish, we, the Local Government Board, under the authority of the statutes in that behalf, have made due inquiry into the circumstances of the case, and find that the returning officer was wrong in rejecting the nomination of the said Anne Shaw, and should have certified that the said Anne Shaw was duly elected Guardian of the Poor for the said parish:

"Now therefore, we, the Local Government Board, in pursuance of the powers given to us by the statutes in that behalf, hereby determine that the said Anne Shaw was duly nominated and elected Guardian of the Poor for the said parish, and is entitled to act as such during the current year of office under and by virtue of such election as aforesaid.

"Given under the Seal of Office of the Local Government Board, this second day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one.

"J. G. DODSON, President,

"HUGH OWEN, Assistant Secretary."

We are informed that when Mrs. Shaw finally took her seat on the Board, the most cordial satisfaction was expressed at her success by all her fellow guardians.

This second decision of the Local Government Board coming directly after their recognition of Mrs. McIlquham's right to be elected, is most important. They insist only that a candidate shall be *a person rated to the poor rate for property of the requisite rateable value*. If a married woman can be proved to be thus legally rated, she is under no disqualification for serving as far as the opinion of the Board goes.

The *St. Alban's Times*, in an article on women guardians, says: "We heard of a case, some few years ago, where the existence of some disease in a Union Workhouse could not be accounted for until some of the guardians' wives overhauled the female's wards."

The *Daily Review*, Edinburgh, November 4th, says: "For this particular work, many ladies in Edinburgh, and in every town of the Kingdom, possess qualifications which many of the most benevolent men lack. They have made it their business to know the poor; through congregational and other benevolent agencies, hundreds and thousands of the daughters and wives of well-to-do citizens have brought themselves into close contact with the poor, and from a sense of Christian duty, no less than from sisterly pity, they have made

themselves acquainted with all their affairs—the amount of money required for the bare maintenance of a household, the sources of income, the kinds of employment available for the different members of the household, the way in which the money is spent, and whether it is made to go as far as it might.”

A drawing-room meeting of the Society for Promoting the Return of Women as Poor Law Guardians was held at the residence of Mrs. Lankester, 68, Belsize Park, N.W., on Wednesday, November 2nd, Miss Müller, M.L.S.B., presiding. Among the speakers were the Rev. Brooke Lambert, Miss Andrews, Miss F. Davenport Hill, Miss C. A. Biggs, &c. It was well attended, and resolutions approving the objects of the society, and expressing a desire to see a lady elected on the Hampstead Board at the first vacancy, were unanimously passed.

#### FOOD PRODUCTION.

THE Association for the Promotion of Food Production by Women can recommend the following lady teachers who are willing to take pupils and to board them while instruction is being given. The terms vary from thirty shillings to forty shillings per week, except at the Munster Dairy School, Cork, where the fee is £3 for the term, payable in advance, which amount pupils can by taking prizes almost recoup themselves. At the Munster School the term lasts six weeks. The next session commences on the first Monday in January, 1882.

Mrs. Burton, Morton, Lothian Burn, Edinburgh, teaches dairy and poultry keeping and gardening.

Miss Hudd, Vines House, Okehampton, Devon, teaches gardening, bee and poultry keeping.

Mrs. Halliday, White House, Chirk, North Wales, teaches gardening in all its branches, budding, grafting, &c.

Miss Phoebe Newton, Maybury Lodge, Woking Station, Surrey, teaches poultry keeping.

Miss Wallett, The Pines, Ewshott, near Farnham, teaches poultry keeping and gardening.

Miss Williams, Berrien, Montgomeryshire, teaches poultry keeping and gardening.

Mrs. Wilson, Granby Villa, Croxted Road, Dulwich, teaches poultry keeping.

At Toft Farm, Burwell Fen, Cambridge, ladies can be received and taught poultry and dairy keeping and gardening by the bailiff. Fee, £50 per annum for board, lodging and instruction.

The Munster Dairy School, Cork, Richard Barter, Esq., *Hon. Sec.*, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

For further particulars respecting Food Production, apply to the *Hon Sec.*, Miss Thorne, Southover Grange, Lewes, Sussex.

#### THE ASSIZE COURTS.

In spite of Sir William Harcourt's flattering statistics pointing to the diminution of crime, the present Assizes are black with crimes of the most violent and worst description. We hear from all sides the complaint that the "roughs" are getting into the ascendant, and the testimony of our police courts shows, as might have been expected, that women are the most frequent victims of the tendency to beat, kick, and pound something weaker than oneself, which distinguishes the British rough. We never feel any disposition to dwell upon brutal cases of wife murder. There will probably be brutes who will take advantage of defencelessness for savage and murderous assaults to the end of the chapter; but the public has a right to insist that there shall be no repetition of such outrages, that the term of imprisonment shall be lengthened far beyond its present limit, and that in the worst cases, even if the penalty of death be not inflicted, the criminal shall be looked upon as a wild beast whom no one in his senses would think of letting loose again.

Two cases, of murder of children and outrage, too horrible to repeat are reported from Walton, in Norfolk, and Leicester. In the first of these the criminal was a convict who had only been released a few days. From Durham comes the account of one most horrible murder; at Gloucester a man has murdered his sister-in-law, but as he was in a drunken fury when he did it, the jury are lenient and call it manslaughter. In Exeter a similarly merciful view was taken of the murder of a

wife from jealousy. Instances might be multiplied indefinitely. The papers of each day are almost sickening to read, for they teem with cases of brutality. The public mind has grown so accustomed to these horrors, that even exceptional circumstances of cruelty fail to arouse it. A few days ago, at the Maidstone Assizes, James Diplock, a tall, powerful man, was indicted for the murder of his wife, by kicking, striking, and other brutal violence. A noticeable fact, we are told, in the enquiry was the extraordinary indifference of the witnesses who found the body, one of them, a farmer named Bannister, in whose service the prisoner was, stated that when he saw the deceased black and blue, her eyes bunged up, her clothes torn and covered with blood, he took no particular notice of what had occurred; in fact, as was observed by the Lord Chief Justice, he appeared to have looked upon it as quite a common and ordinary occurrence. And this ruffian is acquitted of wilful murder.

We may certainly expect to see, as one of the results of a greater participation of women in the work of framing or enforcing the laws, that crimes of this class will be dealt with more heavily than offences against property.

#### REGISTRATION OFFICES FOR SERVANTS.

Our readers may remember that two or three years ago an association of ladies was formed in Switzerland, and extended thence into the chief cities of the Continent, to act as agents of reference in the case of young girls who went out to service, and were liable to be left suddenly without friends in a foreign country, or still worse, purposely decoyed away on false pretences, for the worst purposes. Recent investigations have shown that the agents for this trade live also in London, and in some of the chief cities of England, Scotland, and Ireland, who decoy girls, and even young children, away in various ways and take them to foreign countries. The false pretences made use of have been such as offers of desirable situations as barmaids, domestic servants, or governesses; offers of marriage; offers of adoption by persons who are with-



out children, worthless deeds of adoption have even been executed; or offers of engagements to travel abroad. Girls are thus entrapped by enquiring at registration offices, for it is not always in the power even of a respectable registration agent to ascertain the *bonâ fide* nature of the situation offered, and there are unfortunately other registration offices grievously suspected of playing into the hands of these infamous agents. Persons hang about these offices or round railway stations, and letters containing attractive offers of situations are even addressed directly to girls or parents or even to the managers of Institutions and Asylums.

The London Committee for the suppression of traffic in English girls has, therefore, issued a *caution* to acquaint the public with these facts, and has also published a report containing fuller and further information on this subject, *suited for parents and guardians*. It may be obtained of Mr. Effingham Wilson, 11, Royal Exchange; Messrs. Morgan and Scott, 12, Paternoster Buildings, and Messrs. Dyer Bros., Amen Corner, E.C.

The Committee strongly urges all girls or parents of girls before accepting any situation, or other inducement to go abroad, to make special inquiry of one of the following ladies or gentlemen who will gladly afford such advice or information as may be in their power, without charge:

LONDON.—Mr. Alfred S. Dyer, 1, Amen Corner, E.C.

LIVERPOOL.—Mrs. Butler, 348, Park Road.

PLYMOUTH.—Mrs. Richardson, 9, Woodside.

HULL.—Mrs. Priestman, Eastmount.

SUNDERLAND.—The Rev. C. S. Collingwood, M.A., Southwick Rectory

SCOTLAND.—Mrs. E. Maclaren, 4, Clyde View, Partick.

IRELAND.—Mr. Henry J. Allen, 28, Lower Sackville Street.

### WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

The annual meeting of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage was held on Nov. 9th, at the Town Hall. Mr. Hugh Mason, M.P., presided. The

committee in their report stated that, although no discussion of the main question took place in Parliament last session, an important step forward was made by the extension of the municipal franchise to the women of Scotland. The chairman expressed himself very hopeful that the resolution in favour of women's suffrage which he should bring forward next session would be passed.

#### EMIGRATION.

Probably no individual has done more to help forward emigration than Mr. Vere Foster of Belfast. Women, especially, have a reason for being grateful to him, for he has already assisted the emigration of ten thousand Connaught girls. Under the heading the "Irish Female Exodus," Mr. Vere Forster has issued an appeal for funds in aid of his scheme for assisting the emigration of young Irish men and women of good character.

#### SANITARY LECTURES.

The Nottingham Ladies Sanitary Association has set on foot four courses of Health Lectures to poor women this autumn. Mrs. Cowen lectures in the Baptist school-room, George-street; Miss Sunter in the Temperance Mission Room, Narrow Marsh; Miss Richards in the Congregational School Room, Queen's Walk, and the fourth course is in the Derby Road Mission Room. The audience greatly appreciate the lectures, and the diagrams by which they are illustrated, and by their answers to the questions show that they understand what is taught.

#### WOMEN DOCTORS FOR INDIA.

The *October* number of the *Indian Female Evangelist* contained an interesting description of an interview last April between the Maharanee of Punna and Miss Beilby, a medical lady who had for some weeks been in attendance on her. Miss Beilby had also been able to relieve many poor patients in the city and native hospitals.

When the time of her departure from Punna arrived, she was desired to present herself at the palace to take leave of her Royal patient, on Wednesday, the 13th of April last. The Maharanee received her in her private room, and almost immediately dismissed

all her attendants and ladies, so that she might be quite alone with her. The Maharanee then said she wished Miss Beilby to make her a solemn promise. Without knowing what it might involve she was reluctant to do this, but at length the Maharanee said, "You are going to England, and I want you to tell our Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the men and women in England, what the women in the Zenanas in India suffer when they are sick. Will you promise me to do this? She explained that it was no social change in their condition she sought, but relief in their cruel sufferings. She charged Miss Beilby to give this message herself to the great Queen of England, not to send it through any other channel, but to take it herself, or Her Majesty would think less of it.

The Maharanee was convinced that the Empress of India "never heard of sorrow or suffering without sending a message to say how sorry she was, and trying to help." The account goes on to tell how the message was duly delivered.

On Miss Beilby's return to England, the Queen having been told by some of the ladies of her Court of Miss Beilby's work and her message, determined, in spite of all difficulties and many engagements, to see her and hear all for herself, and accordingly sent for her. Her Majesty listened with great interest, asking many questions and showing the deepest sympathy. Turning to her ladies she said, "We had no idea it was as bad as this: something must be done for these poor creatures." The Maharanee's locket, with its message, was given to the Queen, and Her Majesty intrusted Miss Beilby with a message in reply, which was intended for the Maharanee alone. But the Queen also gave Miss Beilby a message which might be given to everyone with whom she spoke on the subject:— We should wish it generally known that we sympathise with every effort made to relieve the suffering state of the women of India."

It is not likely that Her Majesty can do more than give her gracious sympathy to the cause, but this may be of service, inasmuch as it has often been admitted that her indifference to the movement for giving sound medical instruction to women has done something towards keeping lady doctors out of fashion. Hindoo women have an unconquerable prejudice against consulting doctors of the other sex: surely Englishwomen have a right to have a similar prejudice respected. It is very gratifying however, to see the immense force of missionary enterprise being directed towards this object. *The Times* on Oct. 27th makes the following remarks:—

Dr. Francis, of the Bengal Medical service, in a paper contributed to the missionary journal from which we quote elsewhere, points out the opportunities thus opened to lady practitioners who are willing to adopt India as a field for the exercise of their profession. These would obtain a practical monopoly of attendance upon high caste

female patients in Bengal, where seclusion in the Zenana is more rigidly enforced than in the other Presidencies. The Zenana is a comparatively modern imitation of Mahomedan institutions, which has only taken root in certain parts of Hindostan. In Bengal a man-doctor is only allowed to see the patient's tongue, or feel her pulse, through a hole in a curtain. The female population of the Bengal Presidency, according to the census of the present year, is no less than 34,600,000. Of this immense number perhaps only a small proportion are subject to the scruples which prevent them from obtaining relief from male doctors. But even 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 of women whose families are mostly well able to pay for medical attendance present a lamentable picture of suffering which might be alleviated, and at the same time offer a goodly field for the employment of educated European women. Obstetrics as practiced among Hindoos are of the rudest kind. Midwifery is confined to an hereditary guild of low-caste, ignorant women, whose skill may, perhaps, be gauged by their fee—a few annas, about 3d. They do their work better than might be expected, but they are, of course, helpless in more critical cases. Ordinary female sick nurses have a still worse reputation. They know nothing of doctoring, but they try to conceal their ignorance by recourse to the coarsest superstitions. Incantations to drive out the evil spirit are their sovereign remedy whenever they are at fault; and altogether they are as thorough imposters as the African medicine-men. Dr. Francis would give the Indian lady-doctor a training not so thorough as that required for the medical practitioner in these islands, but one nevertheless fitting her to cope with cases of ordinary difficulty, and especially with the diseases of women and children. A general knowledge of anatomy and physiology, of minor surgery, of the oculist's practice, and especially of obstetrics, are the qualifications with which a lady-practitioner should be armed in order to embark with confidence upon her charitable enterprise.

We have grave doubts if this limitation be good. Undoubtedly a lady with even a second-rate European medical education would be far superior to any native physician, but on what grounds of expediency are we to be content to send out medical help which is not the very best obtainable? These ladies would often be in situations in which they could not appeal to another physician; they will have diseases just as complicated to deal with as European diseases, with which an inferior training will not qualify them to deal. The means for obtaining a thorough education are at hand. Dr. Francis says it has been urged that by sending ladies (medical and others) into the female apartments, we are helping to perpetuate a bad system. We are disposed to think that the system is one which may with advantage spread to England.

Dr. Francis points out that for those ladies who are satisfied with a short period of training, a *Zenana and Medical Mission House* has recently been set on foot in Vincent Square, Westminster, into which ladies are received for a month on probation, at the end of which time they, if accepted, commence their studies. All the lecturers give their services gratuitously; the hospital training is at the Hospital for Women and Children. The education given is thorough and practical, especially in the obstetrical department. The ladies will receive a certificate after a satisfactory examination, as a guarantee of qualification, from the Obstetrical Society, and also from other recognised examining bodies for other branches of the profession. Dr. Francis consistently advocates thoroughness in all that is taught, and deprecates short courses of study. A student in the London School of Medicine for women spends four years in her studies; surely this is not too much to prepare for the work of a lifetime in conscientious thoroughness.

Miss Beilby has again sailed for India to resume her medical duties at Lucknow and Punna.

Miss Marston, Licentiate of the King's and Queen's College of Physicians, will sail shortly, and will probably prepare herself at Benares, by study of the language, to relieve Miss Beilby when the latter returns next year to complete her medical studies.

### EMPLOYMENT.

**WOMEN AND CENSUS WORK.**—The Government have employed women in the Census work for Ireland. There are 22 men and 22 women (selected by examination) now occupied in Dublin in calculating and arranging the enormous mass of statistics of the census. The work is done at home, and is paid for by the number of sheets done. We understand that the earnings average one shilling an hour, and that the women workers are giving satisfaction.

FOURTEEN female clerks were appointed at the General Post Office last week.

**IRISH LADIES' WORK SOCIETY.**—The object of this Society is to give ladies with an insufficient income, a means of helping themselves. Orders are taken for plain and fancy work, lace, knitting, &c., and a great variety of articles are always on sale at the dépôt, 25,

Mellifont Avenue, Kingstown, Dublin. Some of the work done is very good. Miss E. Banks is secretary.

HAIRDRESSING.—A new shop for ladies' and children's hairdressing has just been opened at 48, South Molton-street, New Bond-street, by Harriett Muston and Rose Collins, who have both been for many years in the employment of Douglas. Very moderate terms are offered, and good fashionable styles guaranteed. This is an occupation which seems as if it should be entirely in the hands of women.

#### RELIEF IN IRELAND.

An influential association has been formed for the relief of ladies who are in distress through non-payment of their rents in Ireland. The committee, who include among their number many distinguished names, limit their objects to the assistance of widows or unmarried ladies whose incomes have failed altogether or in part through the cause referred to. The suffering among this class is said to be widespread, a large proportion of cases being, it is stated, those of ladies "owning small properties, or mortgagees and annuitants on real estate, whose incomes at best are only just enough to enable them to live."

This widespread distress among ladies furnishes an additional proof of the importance of training girls, even of well-to-do parents, to some profession, by which they might help themselves. The incomes of men with small properties in land are equally cut off owing to the non-payment of rents; but no association is necessary to help them, because the majority have been trained to help themselves. It is mistaken kindness even in those fathers who are able, as they suppose, to leave their daughters above actual want, not to teach their girls something thoroughly, by which if banks fail, stocks fall, or rents become unattainable, they may support themselves till better times come. It is too late to acquire the training when the actual need for exertion comes.

TEMPERANCE WORK.—The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Women's Temperance Association commenced at Sheffield, Nov. 1st, Mrs. Potter, of York, presiding. Thirty delegates from various Yorkshire districts were present. Resolutions were passed calling on Christian ladies to discourage the taking of wine and beer by young women of delicate health, or who have been fatigued by long hours of labour. A public meeting was held in the evening, which was largely attended.

In Bristol, temperance meetings of ladies have also been well attended.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

THE death is announced, at the advanced age of 87, of Mrs. Mary Emma Ebsworth (born Fairbrother), who wrote during the first half of this century many successful dramas, some of which have been printed and reprinted.

OMNIBUS PROPRIETORS.—Mrs. Dawson Burns has lately called attention to a great public inconvenience to the majority of ladies using the London omnibuses, in the difficulty of getting in and out, owing to the very high steps placed at their entrance. "I have for years," she says, "been a constant rider in omnibuses, therefore can speak feelingly as to the annoyance, and have over and over again noticed with what pain and inconvenience ladies are either helped up by the hand of a fellow passenger, or pushed in by an impatient conductor. It should be borne in mind that nearly all the purchasing for the household is done by ladies who use these omnibuses daily, and that frequently their hands are encumbered with parcels." We might add that another inconvenience consists in the poor facilities allowed for climbing up to the top, which render riding there difficult, even for elderly men, and nearly impossible for women encumbered by their long dresses. Men sometimes think it hard to be asked to ride outside "to accommodate a lady," and many a woman would cheerfully submit to cold or rain, sooner than disturb another passenger, if the means of climbing were a little superior to that provided in the Zoological Gardens for the bears. Perhaps this might be remedied if women became the proprietors of omnibuses. In Springfield, Illinois, a lady owns and manages the city omnibus and carriage line, and in the face of many obstacles has gone ahead till she has now 20,000 dollars' worth of stock.

LADY BRASSEY was lately invested by Mr. A. Hoffnung, the Commissioner of Emigration for the Hawaiian Kingdom, with the order of "Kapiolani."

MRS. McDOWELL, whose works copied at Kensington Palace obtained the prize at last year's exhibition, is engaged at Buckingham Palace, by permission of the

Queen, painting copies of the pieces of tapestry presented to her Majesty by Louis Philippe in 1848.

LADY STRANGFORD'S SCHEME.—Classes for the instruction of soldiers' wives in elementary nursing are in course of formation at Sandhurst, Taunton, Woolwich, Newport, and Eastney Barracks, Portsmouth. The instructor will be Mr. H. Crookshank, M.R.C.S.—*Times*.

THE Committee of the Liverpool Training School of Cookery, at the head of whom is the Mayoress of that town, have issued an interesting special report on the position and prospects of practical cookery in our public elementary girls' schools. Complaint is made of the neglect into which instruction in cookery has fallen in these institutions, and the objections commonly urged to the establishment of efficient cookery classes are answered by some striking examples of successful attempts to establish such classes without the assistance of the Boards. Altogether this pamphlet gives a very comprehensive view of the subject.

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

MADAME FAVRE, widow of the late M. Jules Favre, has been appointed directress of the Normal School of secondary instruction for young girls, lately established at Sèvres, near Paris, and just opened with special ceremony.

A FREE course of commercial instruction was opened for men and women on Oct. 25th, at 10, Rue de Lancey, Paris, the course comprises, book-keeping and commercial law, stenography, German, English, Spanish and Italian.—*La Femme*.

TELEGRAPH AND POST OFFICE CLERKS.—The Minister of the Post Office has ordered that the women employed at night in one of the telegraph bureaux, shall have an official omnibus to take them home. This seems to be a very necessary precaution from the unsafe condition of the streets in Paris after nightfall.

AN interesting report upon the present condition of infant schools has been published lately by the Ministry of Public Instruction. The author is Mlle. Marie Loizillon, who has an appointment for the general inspection of asylum schools. Mlle. Loizillon began her first tour of inspection in 1876, and briefly points out the improvements which



have been made since that time. School libraries have been improved; even little museums for the instruction of the children have sometimes been added, and the general management has been greatly improved. Mlle. Loizillon points out, however, that the insufficiency of the salaries given to the mistresses, prevents many good teachers from undertaking this work, to which they would naturally be attached by their love for children; but they are compelled to seek better paid employment in private schools. We understand this evil is being remedied.

THE *Gaulois* has opened a subscription for establishing ambulances in Algeria. Mme. Edmond Adam has accepted the presidency of the committee of ladies charged with the organization of the ambulances.

*Le Clarion* published lately a little article on the Tunisian expedition addressed to the mothers whose sons have perished of typhoid and military hardships in Tunis. But, in fact, what can women do, excluded as they rigorously are in every country from all power of controlling the war policy of a government. When wars are actually taking place, then it is acknowledged that women are the greatest sufferers, but when those wars are discussed in the national Parliaments, the class whose interests are most involved is excluded from all voice on the subject.

#### ITALY.

MISS MAYOR'S ART-SCHOOL AT ROME FOR WOMEN.—The number of female art-students is constantly increasing, and among them there are many who would like to study at Rome if they knew where to go when they got there. These will be glad to hear that there is an establishment kept by an English lady where they will not only be carefully protected, but well taught. Miss Mayor, herself an artist of much taste, has devoted herself to train young ladies who wish to adopt art as a profession. Her house is large and well arranged, and situated in a beautiful part of Rome, on Mount Pincio, in La Via degli Artisti, commanding a fine view of the city and of the gardens of the monastery. It is necessary, before applying to Miss Mayor, to understand that all who enter her doors must conform to her discipline, which is far from onerous to those who desire to work, and also that they must have a true vocation. She will not keep incurables. Miss Mayor does not by any means neglect the recreation of her students, who have plenty of excursions, concerts, and other pleasant distractions; nor does she fail to endeavour to fill up the gaps so frequently left in the education of those who have devoted themselves to art to the exclusion of more general culture. It must not be supposed that Miss Mayor has organised her home on commercial principles; on the contrary, she has devoted not only her time, but her money, to what she believes to be a good work. In other words she is an art-philanthropist, and has not only received some students for little or nothing, but interests herself in the instruction and amusement of the *models* whom she employs. While, however, she has not been careful to repay herself, no small part of her labour and usefulness is her zeal for procuring employment for her pupils, and enabling them to earn their living, by designing fans,

decorating boxes, illustrating books, &c. Each year is held an exhibition of their work. Miss Mayor has a just desire to secure permanence for an institution which she has founded with so much care. To do this is beyond her personal power, and she seeks the assistance of those in England who take an interest in the work. The first step which she desires is the formation of a society for the purpose of purchasing the house which she occupies. For further information about Miss Mayor, her work and her projects, we must refer our readers to an interesting article by Mdme Coignet in the *Revue politique et littéraire* of last August.—*Academy*.

AN annual subsidy of 10,000f. has been granted to Mrs. Schwabe's Froebel Seminary, at Naples; the President of the Municipal Council observed that the approving of this sum was intended to induce Mrs. Schwabe to invite a delegate of the province to undertake the office of inspector of that institution on the part of the Provincial Administration.

A NEW journal for girls between 12 and 20 is to appear at Florence every week, published by Le Monnier, and the best writers in the country are to contribute. Each number is to contain an article on popular science, one on contemporary history, a story, &c. The subscription for England is six shillings a year.

#### GERMANY.

The German ladies are beginning to take an active share in the public care of the poor. A series of Conferences was held not long ago in Berlin, in which the share which ladies might take under the Poor Law Administration was very fully discussed. Characteristically enough, women were not allowed to speak at these meetings. What should we think now of a Social Science Congress in which ladies took no part?

Dr. Lammers said, that the easily moved hearts of women would be made useful for the most practical care of the poor, though they were now the source of many disturbances and of the continuance of begging; but disciplined and regulated, they afforded immense resources for the management of the poor. He would not recommend that half this official work should be confided to women, as it would be a dangerous experiment to confide any great public administration to their hands, while they were quite inexperienced; but he thought they might be admitted by degrees to take a share in it, and be educated fitly for it. The degree in which they might take a part would vary in different places. In cities where there were no old foundations and charities, it might be well to bring forward women's help more prominently. Elberfeld was one of the new towns, and women had taken a large share of the Municipal Administration for the poor—in the establishment of crèches and the planting out of orphan children into families, in place of bringing them into barrack schools. Women were particularly well-qualified to look after the management of the children under State care, and also into the household economy of institutions. Women were by their natural organisation and present training more inclined to direct their attention to a multitude of small details than men who, from their position in public life, were educated to wide and great views chiefly, and were

unaccustomed to economy, which was made a study of by women. The young womanhood of England was accustomed in great degree to occupy themselves with the care of the poor, and he thought there could not be a more ennobling course for German ladies than to follow this example. DR. FRIEDENTHAL was also of opinion that women understood these matters better than men, and recommended that the existing Ladies' Societies should place themselves in regular communication and close connection with the commercial authorities. DR. HOEPFNER recommended separate Charity Organisations of women which would supplement the official work; and SENATOR DOELL, from Bremen, said that in his opinion it was not only desirable but absolutely necessary that women should take a part in the work. They had been hitherto excluded from all official duties, and it was not their fault, therefore, if they had only given occasional assistance. Many other gentlemen took part in the discussion.

The Report of the Dispensary established for women, in Berlin, by Dr. Henriette Tibertius-Hirschfeld, has been sent to us. This institution is increasing its sphere of usefulness. In one year 3,775 have come for consultation, and 1,318 have been under treatment.

#### RUSSIA.

In the report of the Holy Russian Synod lately published at St. Petersburg concerning the work of the Russian missionaries, it appears that in the Altai region a community of women renders great services both in the schools and in the hospitals.

A CURIOUS conflict has arisen between the Administration and the office of the Public Prosecutor at Moscow relative to the right of parents in Russia to imprison their children, and a commission has in consequence been appointed to inquire into the subject. The article of the penal code under which this power is exercised limits the confinement to from two to four months in a public prison. The Russian journals state that the absolute authority of the parents is not tempered by any mitigating word, though the edition of the general collection of laws published in 1857 is careful to forbid parents selling their children, and the civil code now in force solemnly reminds them that they have no power over their lives.

#### ROUMANIA.

Queen Elizabeth of Roumania, whose *nom de plume*, Carmen Sylva, is hardly a disguise, has published a volume of original poetry. It contains four romances in verse, and is called *Stürme*. A translation of her poem on the tenth century poetess Nun Hroswitha into Hungarian is now appearing in *Egyetertes*.

#### ARMENIA.

The schools under the care of the Americans are of several kinds, the most prominent of which are the following:—Common schools, high schools for boys, high schools for girls, theological seminaries, seminaries for girls, and colleges.

A brief notice of each of these classes of schools will not be out of place. The common schools are the most elementary in character; the average age of children in this class of schools is from seven to

eleven years ; the principal lessons are reading, spelling, writing, the elements of arithmetic, geography, and Scripture history ; the number of these common schools is 424, and the number of scholars in attendance is 14,454. These schools are what may be called mixed schools, as they are attended by boys and girls together, and they form the basis of the general school system, the natural feeders of all the schools of a higher class. As related to the general progress of the masses of the people, the common schools are more important than any other class ; for it is in them that young Armenians of both sexes obtain a good knowledge of reading and writing, and of the simple rules and elements of arithmetic and geography. It certainly must be acknowledged that it is better for a people that a large number should be well grounded in these first elements of knowledge than that a few should be carried forward to a high degree while the masses remain in gross ignorance. In an Oriental country like Turkey it has been found impracticable to educate boys and girls together beyond the age of 11 or 12 years ; for this reason separate schools of a higher class for those of each sex have been established by the Americans among the Armenians. These are called high schools. Unfortunately the statistics in regard to this class of schools are incomplete : but they appear to exist at all the central towns and villages where the Americans are at work. The studies pursued in these schools are, of course, an advance upon, yet they are similar in character to those pursued in the lower schools. Arithmetic and geographies of a higher character are used, while other studies, such as Turkish and Armenian grammar, the Turkish language as written with the Arabic character, and an elementary work on physiology are introduced. Some degree of attention is also given in the high schools to original composition. The schools of this class are expected to prepare girls for the seminaries for girls and boys to enter the colleges.

The girls' seminaries are, doubtless, among the most useful of the many institutions that have been established by the Americans in Turkey. They are found at Constantinople, Brusa, Baghchejuk, near the head of the Gulf of Nicomedia, Marsovan, Cæsarea, Khar-poot, Erzeroum, Bittis, at the western end of Lake Van, Van, Mardin, Hadjin, in the Taurus mountains, Marash and Aintab, in what is commonly called Central Turkey. Thus it will be seen that the seminaries for girls are thirteen in number. While these seminaries are open to suitable candidates from all races and all classes of the different communities, as a matter of fact nearly all the girls in actual attendance are of the Armenian race. The course of study in each seminary is a marked advance upon the studies pursued in the high schools. Much attention is given to the Armenian, Turkish, and English languages, to original composition and music, to Bible history, and to different branches of natural science ; while, for obvious reasons, special attention is paid to the theory and practice of teaching. The reports do not contain a complete statement of the whole number of girls in these seminaries, but I have noticed no seminary where the number of scholars is less than 25 or 30 ; while in several cases between 50 and 60 are reported as in attendance. To this statement the seminary at Marash, which has been but recently

established, should be made an exception. It would, I judge, be quite safe to place the average number of Armenian girls in each seminary at 30, which gives us a total of 390. When we remember that these girls are chosen with special care and are brought together from many different towns and villages, it is easy to be seen that the influence of these seminaries for the improvement of the character and condition of women in Asia Minor must be great. It is gratifying to know that the seminaries for girls are under the direct care of 32 unmarried, well-educated American ladies. These ladies appear to have devoted themselves to this philanthropic work with a comprehensiveness of purpose and a fixedness of determination worthy of the highest praise.—*Times*.

## PARAGRAPHS.

THE discussion upon the usefulness of women as preachers in the Methodist Conference in London, will give some interest to the following account in the *Women's Journal* of some ladies who are already in the ministry, or preparing for it, in America:—

“YOUNG WOMEN PREACHERS.—The Rev. Miss Kate Lent is a young woman who will this year finish her studies in the Methodist Episcopal School of Theology, connected with the Boston University. She is delicate in appearance, and has a fair complexion and light hair. She has had several calls to the pastorate, but the church officials prevent her accepting. She was born in Copake, Columbia County, N. Y., and recently celebrated her twenty-first birthday. Her father, the Rev. Marvin R. Lent, has been for many years a member of the New York Conference. She was eighteen years old when she began to feel what is termed “a call to the ministry,” and she says that she fought the feeling for two years before yielding, because the labour was extremely distasteful to her. She took few persons into her confidence, but when her pastor, the Rev. J. W. Hawxhurst, without solicitation, handed her an exhorter's license, she felt that the call was too well defined to be rejected. The district conference of Poughkeepsie, the Rev. Deltos Lull, presiding elder,

granted her a license as a local preacher in 1878, but the validity of this license has been questioned, and several appeals have been taken, the final one by the Rev. Dr. Wheatley to the General Conference. When Miss Lent entered the Theological Seminary, she had not money enough to pay her expenses for one term, but she says that labour and friends have mysteriously and providentially come to her, so that her wants have been supplied.

"The Rev. Miss Anna H. Shaw was born in England, but was raised in Michigan, in a Universalist family. She was converted to Methodism, and after about half a college course in Michigan, she determined to become a preacher, and went to the Boston School of Theology, where she graduated in 1879. Miss Shaw knocked in vain at the doors of the New England Conference. She passed her examinations satisfactorily, and was to have had her name presented to the Conference along with that of the Rev. Miss Anna Oliver, the pastor of the Willoughby Avenue Church in Brooklyn, but as Bishop Andrews refused to entertain the motion in Miss Oliver's case, Miss Shaw's name was not presented. After waiting in vain for the last general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to open the pulpits of its churches to women, Miss Shaw applied to the Protestant Methodist Church, and was ordained last fall, being the first woman ever ordained in that denomination. She is now the pastor of an Independent Methodist Church at East Dennis, on Cape Cod. Miss Shaw and Miss Lent both assisted Miss Oliver in a revival in Brooklyn last fall. Miss Shaw is *petite* in stature, has dark hair and gray eyes, and is thirty years old.

"The Rev. Anna Oliver, the best known of the girl pastors, is pastor of the Willoughby-avenue M. E. Church, in Brooklyn. It has often been said that she preaches under an alias, or pulpit name, and that her true name is Anna Snowden. The latter is the name in which she is obliged to sign legal documents, but she was known as Anna Oliver when she was a child living with an aunt, who gave her that name, and as she grew up with that as her accepted name, she has never changed it, although a number of gentlemen, it is

said, have offered to change it for her. Her aunt, by whom she was reared, was a daughter of General Robert Borgadus, and lived upon Murray Hill. Miss Oliver was an attendant of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, and a student in Rutgers College. She took the degree of A.B. from Rutgers College, and subsequently after having studied art three years, took the degree of A.M. Miss Oliver determined to go to work for herself. Her parents were well-to-do Philadelphians, accustomed to the old Southern and English notions that a gentleman was a man of leisure, and that a gentlewoman or lady forfeited all claims to that title when she did work for which she received pay.

"When Anna," says one of Miss Oliver's friends, 'sold her first picture, her relatives acted as though she had committed a crime and had greatly disgraced them.'

"They steadily opposed her studying for the ministry, and did not become reconciled wholly to her course until she became the popular pastor of a Brooklyn church, which she had purchased in her own name. Then they accepted her views as correct, and some time ago knelt at the altar in her church, and received the sacrament from her hands. Miss Oliver graduated from the theological department of the Boston University in 1876, and received the degree of S. T. B. (Sacred Theological Bachelor). In her case the question of the ordination of women came up before the general conference. It had been held by the bishops that the discipline did not extend this right to women, and many petitions were sent in asking for a change of the discipline. The question was referred to a committee, and a minority reported in favour of the ordination of Miss Oliver, thus opening the door to other women. The majority reported that women were allowed by the general consent of the church to do everything necessary for usefulness, but, as soon as the committee reported, the general conference adjourned. The young women preachers claim that the body adjourned to avoid the question."—*New York Sun*.

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ART. I.—A COMFORTABLE RETROSPECT.

THERE are times in every spring in this island of ours, “planted among the northern seas,” when nothing seems as if it could make any headway or growth at all. The farmer has guided his furrow and sown his seed long ago, but in spite of sunshiny days and mild winds, vegetation will not come forward. The birds know it is still winter and keep away, and if a few venturous buds put forth they are nipped and blackened by an unexpected and unkindly frost. One becomes almost hopeless of ever seeing better times, and can only go on in faith, pruning and digging. Then there comes a day when a new stir and life is felt all around; when, without being aware that it has become warmer, we see in every corner of the wood and every rood of ground buds unfolding, green blades sprouting up, and our ears catch the faint hum of insect life, and the quick flutter of wings, that tell us spring is really come.

It is *growing time*, and whether the farmer now wakes or sleeps, his crops will shoot forth; his patience and toil and faith were all doing their work before, though he could not see it, and the summer sun will take care of the rest. All his care is now to see that weeds will not spring up and choke his corn with a rank growth.



Something of this stir and movement is now felt in the world of women's work. They have toiled in unselfishness and waited with patience and prayed with faith for a return for their labours, but too often have seen the fair promise blighted by the frosts of sarcasm of indifference or injustice. Now all is changed—it is growing time. Formerly we might be satisfied if each decade showed a marked step in advance—now every year gives us victories, increasingly important to chronicle. The Jewish prophetess, describing the national victories against their aggressors, declared that “the stars in their courses fought against Sisera,” and we may almost feel, when with profound thankfulness we see new friends rising up for us, and help coming from unexpected quarters, for a cause which for so many years seemed helpless and paralysed, that unseen influences are watching over us and helping forward the work which is growing beyond our hands.

The year that is passing seemed as if it must, of necessity be, a bad year for women. There was still trade depression, stinting the supplies of money which appeared needful for energetic work, and the attention of Parliament was directed, from the beginning to the end of the Session, to the unquiet condition of Ireland, and the necessary remedial measures. What “urgency” did not effect, the “blocking” of Bills, according to the half-past twelve o'clock rule, accomplished, and there were times when the struggle seemed not only delayed but likely to be altogether arrested. Nevertheless, in spite of these obstacles, considerable progress has been made; and it is an additional element of satisfaction in recording the substantial nature of the gains, that they have been acquired under such unfavourable conditions, inasmuch as it shows that the patient efforts so long directed towards improving the condition of women, have now acquired too much strength to be easily counteracted.

Politically, the year 1881 has been important, because it has been the first time that women's votes have been given at a Parliamentary election in the British empire since the general election of 1868, when in many places the women who had been left on the voting lists by the

registrars went to the poll. In our summary for 1880 we had the pleasant task of recording the passing of the new Electoral Act in the Isle of Man, which conferred the suffrage on women owners of houses or land. Having received the Royal Assent on January 5th, the Act was formally proclaimed as law on the Tynwald Hall, according to ancient Manx custom. The general election began on March 21st. The total number of women electors in the Island averages 700, and so great was the general appreciation of the newly obtained right, that at three voting stations the first votes recorded were those of women.

But the principle of the suffrage has been conceded by Parliament this year to a population infinitely larger than that of the Isle of Man. Beyond all doubt, the greatest gain of 1881 has been the Municipal Franchise Act for Scotland. The right of women ratepayers to vote in the election of town councillors was secured in England by the Municipal Franchise Act of 1869, of which one of the Cabinet Ministers of that time observed—"never had so great a revolution been so quietly accomplished." The Act, however, did not extend to Scotland. Early in last Session, Dr. Cameron, M.P. for Glasgow, introduced a Bill to assimilate the position of women in Scotland to that which Englishwomen have enjoyed for twelve years. The Bill passed the House of Commons before Easter; it was then brought forward in the House of Lords by the Earl of Camperdown, was passed on May 13th, and received the Royal Assent on June 3rd. The measure only comes into operation on the 1st of January, 1882, as it was represented that the assessors would have no time to make out the amended lists before the date when they were bound to present them to the revision courts this year. The November municipal elections, therefore, passed over without any change being made in the constituencies, but from the beginning of next year, women will be legally capable of voting in the election of every town council in Scotland. This measure will, we believe, be conducive to the good local government of the whole country, and will most certainly be the means of interesting a numerous body of orderly and educated

householders in public affairs. It is, at the same time, a concession to the principle that the governed have a claim to participate in the government, and the taxpayer in the disbursement of taxes, which Parliament will find it difficult to ignore when the question of the political franchise next comes before it.

It is not unimportant as showing that the currents of public opinion are running in a parallel direction in many countries, to observe that by virtue of the new electoral law in Croatia women were for the first time this summer called to take part as electors in the general election of the municipal councils of that province. Even in France where the backwardness of education among women compels these questions to work under great disadvantages, three ladies actually were *voted for* in one of the departments, a distinction which though of course unavailing, is very remarkable as a proof of an improving state of opinion, and was gracefully acknowledged by them.

The English Married Women's Property Bill was one of the melancholy instances of the hardship inflicted by obstruction under the existing rules of the House of Commons. Re-introduced last session by Mr. Hinde Palmer, whose name is so honourably associated with the past history of the measure, it was read a second time without a division on the 13th of January, and referred to a Committee who settled it minutely, and reported it on the 10th of March. After that time its progress was effectually "blocked," and it was withdrawn in the last days of the session. But the companion measure for Scotland was more successful, and became law on July 18th. A great step in advance has been thus made in the position of wives in Scotland, though the Act has not done everything contemplated by Mr. Anderson and the other promoters of the Bill. A wife is now placed in the same position with regard to her property as though this had been protected by a carefully drawn contract of marriage. She may deal with her earnings in perfect freedom; her moveable and personal estate whether acquired before or during marriage, is reserved to her as well as the rents of her real property. The defect of the measure is the reser-

vation of the husband's right of administration, so that she cannot buy or sell, or make an investment without his consent, except out of her earnings or annual income. In some American States this restriction applies equally to husband and wife, the consent of the other spouse being considered indispensable in similar transactions, and if the obligation were thus made mutual there might seem good reason for its adoption here. Meanwhile, the gain to married women in Scotland is substantial and undeniable, and we most heartily congratulate on their success the hard workers in this movement, and the Members of Parliament who with tact and infinite patience have carried it through both Houses.

There is also great cause for congratulation in the vote which was taken in Cambridge University last spring upon the admission of women students. Cambridge has always marched honourably in the van of female education, and for some years the students of Girton and Newnham have been allowed to compete informally in the Classical and Mathematical Triposes, and the examiners have told them the place they would have obtained had they been allowed to present themselves formally. Last year numerous influentially signed memorials were presented to the Vice-Chancellor to give to this informally conceded examination the force of law. A Syndicate was appointed to consider the subject of the memorials, and it reported favourably to the Senate, which after some discussion summoned a general meeting on February 24th. The Members of the Cambridge Senate are scattered all over England, but they responded most heartily to the call, and from "east and west, and south and north," came to vote. It was felt on all hands that the rejection of the proposal to give women a legal right to examination could not have left them in the same position as before, but must have involved the cessation of the informal examination. The result of the voting was decisive, and showed without the possibility of cavil how the sympathies of Cambridge inclined. The recommendations of the Syndicate were adopted by the immense majority of 398 against 32. The new

regulations came into operation in the Easter term, and in the following Tripos Examinations the names of the successful students of Girton and Newnham were placed side by side with those of the inmates of the older colleges, acknowledged members of the University, though not yet enjoying the same rank and dignities as the men students.

The influence of Cambridge has, as might be expected, been felt in other quarters. The Senate of Durham University, after a long discussion, voted that female students who fulfil the requirements of the University respecting residence and standing shall be admissible to the Public Examination and the first Degree in Arts of the University. Convocation ratified this vote on May 24th. The victory in Durham, however, seems likely to be barren for the present, as by a second resolution such students must reside either in a college or hall licensed by the Warden and Senate, or in some institution established for the purpose by private individuals under the control of the University. The Senate is unwilling to make any disbursements on behalf of the new students, or to admit them to participation in the scholarships already founded, and believes that the expenses may be met by a guarantee fund. But money is generally difficult to obtain for purposes exclusively affecting women, and it is probable therefore that some time will yet elapse before they actually become students at this University.

The Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into Welsh education is also full of encouragement. The Commissioners recommend the establishment of good intermediate schools, not only for boys, but for girls especially, for whom hitherto very little has been done in the Principality; and they recommend moreover—a very important point—that a fair proportion of the governing bodies of the new schools should be women.

The Intermediate Education Examinations in Ireland continue to be a marked success, and the pupils present themselves in fast increasing numbers. In 1880, 1,477 girls gave notice as candidates, but in the present year, the number has increased to 2,033, five of whom in the Senior Grade, obtained scholarships of £50 a year, and

fourteen in the Middle Grade, of £30 a year. These substantial encouragements to exertion will probably result in still greater efforts next year.

From the other side of the world comes the satisfactory announcement that the University of Sydney has admitted women not only to examinations and instruction, but to matriculation and final degrees. The New Zealand University also, which has for some time been open to women, conferred the title of M.A. last August, on a lady, Miss Helen Connon.

Another, and what may eventually prove a most important movement, has had its origin this year. It is not absolutely a new thing for a woman to be elected Guardian for the Poor, but the examples have been very few, and no amount of public opinion has been directed to the subject. Lately, however, the view has gained considerable ground, that no public body entrusted with the guardianship of poor women and children, the helpless and the sick, is complete without the admixture of a fair proportion of women. A Society was formed in London in the spring, which had the effect of arousing much interest in the question. Seven ladies were elected in London, and others in the provinces, and the cordial tone adopted by the press, and by all classes of men and women towards the new movement, shows that it is not only unlikely to die away, but may be the beginning of a new era, when every department of social work will have the same advantages from the co-operation of women which domestic work now possesses. The Social Science Congress took up the matter very warmly, and passed a resolution that the legal disabilities which prevent the election of women in Ireland, ought to be amended, a resolution which will probably lead to very practical results before long. There is, as we have elsewhere had occasion to point out, considerable difficulty in finding qualified women as candidates. The majority of ladies who have exerted themselves in active benevolence among the poor, are not, as a rule, occupied with the domestic cares incident to the condition of householders, and so long as a property qualification is necessary to render a candidate eligible as guardian, it is probable that the best people, both men

and women, those who have most leisure to give to the work, will be excluded. The experience of the School Board seems to establish the view, that a ratepaying qualification is not necessary to secure good sense, respectability or thoroughness in the accomplishment of public duty, and the duties of School Board Members are very similar to those of the Poor Law Guardians. This is a matter of general importance which will require very careful consideration before many years are out.

Among matters of minor importance, we may mention the establishment of the Somerville Club, an effort to bring the advantages of co-operation among a large circle of women who might otherwise never have the opportunity of meeting; and the establishment of a society which aims at various sensible improvements in women's dress, and appears likely to be more permanent, because more undemonstrative than some similar associations in past times. Telephony has lately been added to the number of employments open to women, and there is some chance that lithography may also be established as a new and profitable pursuit for them. The Civil Service also has put the appointment of female clerks upon the satisfactory basis of open competition.

Amidst so much that is satisfactory, we must not omit to point out a very serious danger threatening their employment in many ways, against which women ought to combine. This is the announcement of a Bill to be brought forward next Session to regulate the hours of all shops in which women are engaged. There is considerable risk that this measure may receive the support, not only of those men who are opposed to women entering into competition with men's labour, but of ignorant philanthropists, who lament the over-long hours from which so many shop-assistants suffer and intend in all kindness to assist them. We entreat all such to consider that the effect of such legislation would be to cause thousands of women to be dismissed from their situations, and men to be employed in their place. Parliament has really no more right to interfere with adult female labour than with adult male labour;

but many well-intentioned people think it has, and the danger is a real one, which may, if not guarded against, undo much of the good that women's Benefit Societies and Employment Committees have effected after years of strenuous effort.

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ART. II.—RECENT LEGISLATION AND ATTEMPTED LEGISLATION WITH REGARD TO THE PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN IN ENGLAND AND IRELAND.\*

FOURTEEN years ago, at the time of the Belfast Congress of the Social Science Association, a memorial, supported by numerous and influential signatures, was presented to the Council, calling their attention to the harshness and injustice of the law of England and Ireland with regard to the property, earnings, and maintenance of married women.

The memorial was favourably received by the Council, who referred to the Personal Laws Committee the consideration of the law of property as it affects married women.

This Committee, after carefully enquiring into the state of the law, both as administered by Courts of Law and Courts of Equity, and also examining the legislation of other European countries, and of the United States, on the subject, submitted an interesting and valuable Report, in which they suggested the following heads of new law of property as to married women:—

1. The Common Law rules which make marriage a gift of all the woman's personal property to the husband to be repealed.
2. Power in a married woman to hold separate property by law as she now may in equity.
3. A woman marrying without any antenuptial contract,

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\* A brief abstract of this Paper was read at the Social Science Congress, Dublin.



to retain her property and after acquisitions and earnings as if she were a *feme sole*. 4. A married woman, having separate property, to be liable on her separate contracts, whether made before or after marriage. 5. A husband not to be liable for the antenuptial debts of his wife any further than any property brought to him by his wife under settlement extends. 6. A married woman to have the power of making a will; and on her death intestate, the principles of the Statute of Distributions as to her husband's personalty *mutatis mutandis* to apply to the property of the wife. 7. The rights of succession between husband and wife, whether as to real or personal estate, to curtesy or dower, to be framed on principles of equal justice to each party.

Upon these suggestions a Bill was carefully drafted, and introduced into the House of Commons, in the Session of 1868, by Mr. Shaw Lefevre, with whose name on the back of the Bill were associated those of Mr. Russell Gurney and Mr. John Stuart Mill.

The Bill opened by declaring in its preamble that "the Law of Property and Contract with respect to Married Women is unjust in Principle."

It came on for second reading on the 10th of June, and a division being challenged by Mr. Lopes, the Ayes were 123, and the Noes 123. "And the numbers being equal, Mr. Speaker stated that he should follow the wise rule usually adopted in similar cases, by giving the House a further opportunity of considering the merits of the Bill at a future stage, and accordingly he declared himself with the Ayes."

The Bill was thereupon read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee, including the following gentlemen:—Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Solicitor-General (Sir C. J. Selwyn), Mr. Lowe, Mr. Russell Gurney, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Baggallay, Mr. John Simeon, Mr. Beach, Sir Colman O'Loughlen, Mr. Ayrton, Mr. Goldney, Mr. Baines, Mr. Bentinck, Mr. Jacob Bright, and Mr. Powell.

The Committee carefully considered the subject, took most important evidence, and, on the 17th of July, the Session being too far advanced for the further progress of the Bill, that year submitted to the House their Report, together with the minutes of evidence.

From the draft report, submitted by the Chairman, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, to that Committee, the following brief summary of the law, as it then stood, is taken:—

“The legal evidence taken by your Committee shows that the Courts of Common Law and the Courts of Equity administer two distinct systems of law with reference to this subject, and are guided by entirely different principles. In the Common Law Courts, the married woman is not, in respect of property, recognised as having a legal existence independent of her husband. In contemplation of law the husband and wife are one person, and that person is the husband. The wife is incapable of contracting, and of suing and being sued. Her property at marriage vests in her husband, or passes under his control and management during her life. As regards her real estate, the husband cannot sell it without her consent, and after his death it survives to her or her heirs, but pending their joint lives, the husband can deal with the income as he pleases, and dispose of his interest without her consent, and without making provision for her. Her personal property at marriage vests absolutely in her husband. Her leasehold property is equally at his disposal, but if he does not dispose of it during his life, it reverts to the wife surviving him. In either case the husband may dispose of such property without making any provision for the future maintenance of the wife or children. Her earnings are equally at his disposal.”

After carefully explaining the methods by which the Courts of Equity had elaborated a system enabling rich women by antenuptial arrangement to escape from the severity of the Common Law, and indicating the changes already made by legislation throughout most of the United States and in Canada, the draft Report continued, “Looking therefore to the result of this experience, and to the general tendency of the provisions of equity, so far as they have been made available to the wealthy classes only in this country, your Committee is strongly of opinion that the Common Law of this country, which gives the wife's property to her husband, should be repealed, and that the wife should have control over her property and earnings, and that

her disability to contract, and to sue and be sued in respect of them should be removed."

Between the sessions of 1868 and 1869 came a general election, in consequence of which, Mr. J. S. Mill being no longer in the House of Commons, and Mr. Shaw Lefevre having taken office in Mr. Gladstone's first administration, the Married Women's Property Bill was introduced by Mr. Russell Gurney, with whom were now associated Mr. Headlam and Mr. Jacob Bright. The Bill passed the second reading in the House of Commons on Wednesday, April 14th, without a division. It was again referred to a Select Committee, to whom the Report made from the Select Committee of the previous session was also referred. The Committee of this session consisted of Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Lowe), Mr. Cross, Mr. Solicitor-General (Sir J. D. Coleridge), Mr. Amphlett, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Scourfield, Mr. Lefevre, Mr. Lopes, Sir John Simeon, Mr. Bentinck, Mr. Jessel, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Pemberton, Mr. Dowse, and Mr. Russell Gurney.

This Committee did not take evidence, but went through the Bill, and on the 13th of May, reported it, as amended, to the House.

Of the amendments introduced, the only one which seriously limited the application of the principle of the Bill was the amendment restricting the power of a married woman to dispose of her real estate during her lifetime, except with the consent of her husband.

Mr. Raikes now put down notice of opposition, and was so far successful as to delay the third reading of the Bill to the 21st of July, when it was carried by 131 votes against 33. The Bill was presented to the House of Lords by Lord Penzance, and passed the second reading without a division, but as the session was already so near its close the Peers refused to proceed further with a measure which had not before received their consideration, and the labour and time which had been expended upon it in the House of Commons, were for the session thrown away.

In 1870, Mr. Russell Gurney again introduced the Bill, which now passed through every stage in the House of Commons *without a division*, and was presented

to the House of Lords by Lord Cairns, who was understood to be heartily in favour of the principle of the measure. Other representatives of the law then to be found in the Upper House showed themselves less tolerant of the proposed changes. The second reading of the Bill was taken on the 21st of June, when some of these Peers, notably Lord Penzance, who had introduced the Bill in the previous year, and Lord Westbury, made violent speeches directed against the principle of the measure.

The short and simple answer to the invective of the legal Peers, is to be found in the fact, perfectly well-known to each of them, that any wife possessed of separate property could, with the full sanction of the Courts of Equity, perform any of the acts which they affected so much to deprecate as inconsistent with the position of a wife, and that, in point of fact, such transactions were of daily occurrence amongst the wealthier classes, yet—that they themselves would never dream of interfering with the doctrines and practice of the Equity Courts, but on the contrary, would be the first to secure such safeguards for the independent control of their property in the case of their own sisters and daughters.

The Bill was, however, read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee, consisting of the following Peers, the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Airlie, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Morley, the Earl of Lichfield, the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, Lord Dynevor, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Lord Clandeboye, Lord Westbury, Lord Romilly, Lord Cairns, Lord Penzance, and the Lord President.

This Committee dealt with the Bill after the most extraordinary fashion. They struck out of the Bill fourteen clauses, inserted eleven new ones, modified four others, and only left intact the two formal clauses which gave the short title of the measure, and provided that it should not extend to Scotland. Nor was the change one of form, merely, but of substance, for the principle of the original Bill was, if not entirely spirited away, yet severely restricted in its application to the case

of *earnings* made by a woman *during her marriage*. For to this extent, the House of Lords committed themselves by their dealings with this measure to the doctrine that the creation of property by one's own industry, is the one chief and just title to the possession and ownership of property, whilst inheritance or gift ought to convey only a more imperfect title, a doctrine, which may at some future time prove in the highest degree inconvenient to the Peers themselves. For the Act carefully provides in section 1, that—

The wages and earnings of any married woman acquired or gained by her after the passing of this Act in any employment, occupation, or trade in which she is engaged or which she carries on separately from her husband, and also any money or property so acquired by her through the exercise of any literary, artistic, or scientific skill, and all investments of such wages, earnings, money, or property, shall be deemed and taken to be property held and settled to her separate use, independent of any husband to whom she may be married, and her receipts alone shall be a good discharge for such wages, earnings, money, and property.

So that the earnings of any woman made during her marriage, since the 9th of August, 1870, the date when the Married Women's Property Act came into operation, are her own private property, to spend, invest, dispose of and bequeath as she pleases.

The Act further gives to a wife any personal property that may come to her during the marriage through the death of an intestate relative, and any sum not exceeding £200 left her by will or deed. This provision as to the £200, was introduced by Lord Romilly on Report, and the only division taken on the Bill during its progress through the House of Lords was upon Lord Romilly's motion, which was affirmed by 29 Peers against 17. Small legacies and gifts were thus secured to wives, but gifts to a wife of more than £200 value, and bequests above that amount, unless made to her separate use, go to her husband under the rule of the Common Law just as before the passing of the Act.

The Act in no way affects the position of a wife with regard to real estate, except by giving to her for her separate use the rents and profits of real estate which may come to her after her marriage as heiress or co-heiress of an intestate.

With regard to earnings made before marriage the Lords failed to apply the principle that the fruits of industry ought not to be confiscated, or appropriated by force of law to the benefit of those who had done nothing to create them. In Committee of the House on the Bill, Lord Brougham proposed an amendment, the effect of which would have been to secure to a wife her right in her own earnings made before marriage, but the amendment was negatived on the ground that, if adopted, it would be necessary to trace to its origin any sum of money or portion of property possessed by a woman before her marriage, so as to shew that it was the product of her own industry.

The only protection offered by the Act to the earnings of a woman *about to marry*, or to any other personal property possessed by her is, that she may deposit it in a savings' bank, which will only take £200, or invest it in her intended name as a married woman, in some one or other of the few specified investments, being those which the paternal thoughtfulness of the Peers had selected as suitable for the purpose. Moreover, in the case of such investments, the best legal authorities appear to hold that if effected without the concurrence of the intended husband, any such investment would be violable by him as a fraud on his marital rights.

What is the real legal effect and value of these same sections of the Act with regard to the personal property of *married* women is very doubtful. Some authorities seem to be of opinion that, under these sections, a married woman might protect the bulk, if not the whole of such property, by investing it in the manner prescribed. But by far the more probable interpretation would appear to be that only such property as she already possessed as "separate property," could be thus dealt with without the express consent of the husband, who might otherwise claim it just as though the investment had been made out of moneys of his own without his consent.

The Act further imposed upon a wife *possessed of separate property*, the same Poor Law liability for the maintenance of her husband, which the husband was subject to for the maintenance of his wife, and further

made her liable, like a widow, for the maintenance of her children, though not to the exclusion of the liability of her husband.

Section 11 of the Act provides that—

A married woman may maintain an action in her own name for the recovery of any wages, earnings, money, and property by this Act declared to be her separate property (or of any property belonging to her before marriage, and which her husband shall by writing under his hand, have agreed with her shall belong to her after marriage as her separate property), and she shall have in her own name the same remedies, both civil and criminal, against all persons whomsoever for the protection and security of such wages, earnings, money, and property, and of any chattels or other property purchased or obtained by means thereof for her own use, as if such wages, earnings, money, chattels, and property belonged to her as an unmarried woman; and in any indictment or other proceeding it shall be sufficient to allege such wages, earnings, money, chattels, and property to be her property.

The words "or of any property belonging to her before marriage, and which her husband shall by writing under his hand, have agreed with her shall belong to her after marriage as her separate property," were introduced by Lord Cairns in Committee on the Bill, in order, as he said, "to enable a man and woman on their marriage to agree as to what chattels should be considered the separate property of the woman. This might be done by a few lines on the back of the marriage lines or any other piece of paper." From this statement of Lord Cairns it would appear that such a writing or declaration might be made *after* the marriage, though there is nothing whatever in the Act to determine the limit of time after the marriage within which it should be made.

The section also gives to a married woman the same remedies, both civil and criminal (with regard to all property belonging to her under the Act) which she would have possessed, had she remained unmarried. Not only has she thus the right of action in cases directly involving the recovery or protection of separate property, but, according to some authorities this right extends to cases of breach of contract in relation to a separate business.

Whether, under this section, a wife could proceed criminally against her husband, would seem quite

uncertain. According to Mr. Headlam, the Manchester stipendary magistrate, in the case of Mrs. M'Carthy, a wife cannot do so, even though living apart from her husband, under the protection of a decree of judicial separation. Far more eminent authorities hold to the contrary view, but no judicial decision on the point, has, as yet, been given.

Although by this section, a wife is empowered to sue in her own name, no like remedy was given to her creditors against her, the Act not providing for her being sued with regard to debts contracted by her during her marriage. So that a woman, living apart from her husband, and receiving a larger professional income could keep the whole of that income out of the reach of her creditors, and successfully oppose the plea that she was a married woman to the claims of her grocer, her butcher, and her landlord.\*

By withholding from the wife the rights of contracting and of being sued, both of which were given by Mr. Russell Gurney's Bill, as it finally passed the House of Commons, the Peers continued the legal disability under which no contract entered into by a wife as principal has any legal value. Such a contract is simply legally void, and imposes no liability on any one. It is obvious that such a state of the law must put married women at a great disadvantage in the labour market.

The Bill as it went up to the Lords, would have freed a husband from any liability with regard to wrongs committed by his wife. But as the Peers had not risen to the point of recognising in a wife the same legal existence and personal responsibility which every unmarried woman possesses, and therefore refused her the liability to be sued, and restricted the right of suing to questions of "separate property," it follows, that to this day an action in the case of a wrong committed by a wife must be brought against husband and wife jointly. So also a husband and wife must sue jointly in the case of a wrong or injury done to the

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\* See *Hancocks v. Sublache*. *The Times*, March 11th, 1878. and L.R., 3, C.P.D., see also case of Mrs. Rousby.



wife, and the damages, if any, are the property of the husband, and must be paid to him.

Upon a case of this kind, which was heard in the Exchequer Court, in Dublin, on the 9th of May, 1879, the *Women's Suffrage Journal* for June of that year, makes the following pertinent observations:—

One of the penalties imposed by marriage on women is the deprivation of personal rights in regard to personal injuries. An unmarried woman, who is hurt or disabled by a railway or other accident, can bring an action in her own name, and recover damages from the persons responsible for the same. She is in the eye of the law a person with full civil rights.

The penalty imposed by English law on a woman who contracts marriage is the deprivation of civil rights. She ceases to be a person recognised by the civil law. Her limbs are not her own, but her husband's. If she should be hurt by the carelessness of others, she cannot recover damages, for in the eye of the law she is no longer a person, but a piece of damaged property. Her husband can bring the action, but in such a case the damages are adjudged to belong to the owner of the property, and not to the article damaged.

This view of the law, which will probably appear to many of our readers to be an incredible caricature, was sustained in the Exchequer Court in Dublin, in a judgment given on May 9th, by the Lord Chief Baron, Mr. Baron Fitzgerald, and Mr. Baron Dowse. The point arose out of an action brought by Eugene and Ellen Lynch, husband and wife, against the Cork and Macroom Railway Company, to recover damages for injuries sustained by the latter in an accident in December last. The Company had paid into court the sum of £75 in satisfaction of the claim, and the counsel for the wife applied for an order to have the sum paid over to his client's solicitor.

It appeared from the affidavits read in court that the husband and wife lived separate; that the husband had on several occasions deserted his wife, leaving her totally unprovided for; and that since the time of her marriage she had supported herself by keeping lodgings, and working at her trade as a dressmaker.

The husband had authorised the action by lending his name, without which sanction the wife would have had no remedy. The object of this apparent concession became obvious when, on the application of the wife to the court for the payment of the money, the husband opposed the application, and required the money to be paid over to himself. The court had no alternative but to refuse the application of the wife, and to declare that the money was the property of the husband, and that he was at liberty to draw it at once without any order at all.

Such was the judgment of what is called the High Court of Justice—for men. It would seem to be the High Court of Injustice for women.

In a more recent case heard at the Manchester Assizes on the 3rd of February, 1880, before Lord Coleridge,

the defence set up by a railway company to an action brought to recover damages for injuries sustained by a railway accident, was the extraordinary one that the *right plaintiff* was not suing. At the trial, it was stated, in evidence, that the female plaintiff and her children had been deserted many years before by her first husband, and that she, after a lapse of 17 years, during which she neither saw nor heard of him, had married the man, whose name was joined with hers in the suit, nor did she know, till the proceedings were taken, that her first husband was still living. The plaintiff was non-suited, as the Lord Chief Justice was obliged to say that the right plaintiff was not suing. *The right plaintiff*, it will be observed, was the man who long years before had deserted his wife and family, but whose legal right of property in the life and limbs of his wife still continued.

A married woman has the power of making a will with regard to property protected by the Act, as with other separate property; but in regard to any other property, she can only make a will by her husband's consent, which consent he can revoke at any moment, even after her death, until the will is proved. Even the lunacy of a husband will not free a wife from this disability and its consequences—as may be seen from the case *Clayton v. Clagett* and others, reported in the *Times* of May 17th, 1879. In this case which was heard before the Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Court, the committee of a lunatic recovered for the estate of that lunatic property to the value of more than £100,000, which the lunatic's wife had disposed of by will. The lady had, upon her marriage, a large property settled to her separate use. Out of this she made liberal provision for her husband in case of his survivorship. She came unexpectedly, through the failure of several intervening lives, into the possession of this other property, as residuary legatee under her father's will. This money not being settled to her separate use, she could not dispose of it without her husband's consent, which she asked and obtained. The legal question to be decided was, whether the husband was so far a lunatic at the time of giving this consent, as to be legally incompetent to do so. The

Court held that he was thus incompetent, consequently, the property did not go as the sane wife had disposed of it by will, but reverted to the estate of the lunatic husband.

Enough has been said to show how miserably defective was the measure which the timidity or caution of a few Peers (for it will be remembered, that in the solitary division taken on the Bill in the House of Lords, only 46 Peers voted) substituted for the reasonable and just measure, which had, after three years of consideration and discussion, received the decisive approval of the House of Commons, having passed through all its stages in the Session of 1870 without a division. Unfortunately, just at the time at which the Commons were called upon to consider the Lords' amendments, the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war made the whole political outlook uncertain.

The promoters of the measure did not therefore venture as they probably would otherwise have done, to ask the House to reject the Lords' amendments and postpone the Bill for another Session. They felt, that, under the circumstances, they dared not take the responsibility of indefinitely prolonging the injustice suffered by the million or more of wage-earning married women, to whom the Bill, even as mutilated by the Lords, did offer effectual relief. The Lords' amendments were, therefore, agreed to, though not without a vigorous protest, and the Bill received the Royal Assent on the 9th of August, 1870, coming at once into operation. Unhappily, not one of the defects or limitations pointed out above, has, as yet, been remedied. The law, as it stood after the passing of the Act of 1870, is the law as it stands to-day, with one single exception of which it is now time to speak.

The attempts made by the Lords to fit in an entirely new measure, based upon a different principle, that of separate property, with fragments of the original Bill, based upon the principle that a woman's property should be her own, after marriage as before it, led their Lordships into one extraordinary lapse. The 12th section of the Act, the only one, except the Poor Law Clauses,

retained \*from Mr. Gurney's Bill, provided that "A husband shall not, by reason of any marriage which shall take place after this Act has come into operation, be liable for the debts of his wife contracted before marriage, but the wife shall be liable to be sued for, and any property belonging to her for her separate use shall be liable to satisfy such debts as if she had continued unmarried."

But Mr. Gurney's Bill provided that all property possessed by a woman when she married, or acquired by her afterwards, should remain her own. The changes made in the Bill by the Lords only enabled her to protect her property to a limited extent and by round about methods, and made no provision for the cases in which this protection had either not been sought, or had proved unsuitable or unavailable. According to Mr. Courtney Kenny, "This clause may be regarded as the most unfortunate portion of the Statute, whose compound character it betrays; an amalgamation of the reforming efforts of the Commons with the cautious corrections of the Lords' Committee. Not merely does it omit all mention of the liability for pre-nuptial torts; but it gives the husband an entire release from the wife's debts, whilst the preceding clauses have deprived him of her property only partially. The pre-nuptial personally still remains his. Hence it sometimes happened, after 1870, that when a man married a woman possessing large sums of money, the pair would live in luxury upon her fortune and set her former creditors at defiance. She could not be sued, for she had no separate assets, he could not be sued, for the Act had exempted him.

The Legislature found it necessary to undo its work. Accordingly, the "Married Women's Property Act (1870) Amendment Act (1874)" (37 and 38 Vic. c. 50) was passed. This provides that any husband who marries after its enactment, may be sued with his wife for her

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\* And even this altered for the worse, the simple form of Mr. Gurney's clause not being sufficient for the purpose of the Lords. It will be observed that this is the *only* case in which a wife can be sued under the Act of 1870.

pre-nuptial debts, breaches of contract, and torts, but it limits his liability to the real and personal estate that the wife has brought him (which a carefully drawn clause analyses into six possible species.)

English law thus maintains, and long into the twentieth century will maintain three discordant rules as to the liability of husbands for the pre-nuptial debts of their wives.

- (a.) Those married before August 9th, 1870, are under a general personal responsibility.
- (b.) Those married on or after August 9th, 1870, but before July 30th, 1874, are entirely exempt.
- (c.) Those married on or after July 30th, 1874, are under a limited liability.

It will be observed that the Act of 1874 is, in a certain sense, a retrograde measure, since it provides, not that the wife should be liable and might be proceeded against just as though unmarried, and should keep her own property to discharge her own debts; but, refusing to recognise an independent legal existence in the wife, provides that the husband and wife may be sued *jointly*, whilst it guards the husband's interests by limiting his liability.

In this respect only has the law with regard to the Property of Married Women been modified since the passing of the Act of 1870, though attempts have not been wanting to bring the law into fuller harmony with a rapidly advancing public opinion.

In 1873, Mr. Hinde Palmer, assisted by Mr. Amphlett, Mr. Osborne Morgan, and Mr. Jacob Bright, introduced a Bill for the further amendment of the law, which measure was read a second time on the 19th of February. On the 21st, Mr. Lopes gave notice that, on going into Committee, he would move the rejection of the Bill, and on the same day, for which the Bill stood for Committee, there was a "count-out"—before the Bill was reached. On March 4th, a few minutes before the Bill was reached, the House agreed that no opposed business should be discussed after half-past twelve o'clock, and the Bill had, therefore, to be again postponed. This rule, now so well known as the half-past twelve o'clock rule, was at

that time only a Sessional order, expiring with the Session; but on the 18th February, 1879, it was made a standing order of the House. The Parliamentary history of the Bill that Session may be summed up as follows:—

“Read a Second Time: February 19.

“Counted Out: February 21st, March 20th and 25th, April 4th, May 2nd, and June 24th.

“Progress Reported: March 28th, April 25th, and May 5th.

“Postponed because of the Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule: March 4th, March 11th and 21st; April 7th, 21st, and 22nd; May 9th, 23rd, and 26th; June 5th and 13th and July 15th, 22nd, 24th, and 28th.

“Other Postponements: March 13th (ministerial crisis); Wednesdays, May 14th and 21st, June 25th, July 23rd, and August 1st.”

In consequence of these repeated delays, the Bill only succeeded in passing through Committee late in the Session, and was awaiting the stage of Report, when the close of the Session compelled Mr. Hinde Palmer to withdraw it. But in doing so, he gave notice of his intention to introduce the Bill early in the next Session.

The general election of 1874, however, intervened, and Mr. Hinde Palmer was not returned to the new House of Commons. Besides this loss, some eighty-four other Members who had, in 1868, 1869, 1870, and 1873, most steadily supported this amendment of the law, were no longer in the House, whilst the opponents of such legislation were in strong force.

Under these circumstances, the Parliamentary friends of this reform held it inexpedient to attempt the introduction of a Bill, and thus the matter stood over till the Session of 1877.

In that Session, Lord Coleridge presented to the House of Lords a Married Women's Property Act Amendment Bill, substantially the same with Mr. Hinde Palmer's Bill, as amended in Committee. On the 21st of June, 1877, Lord Coleridge moved the second reading of the Bill in an admirable speech, but was opposed by the then Lord Chancellor, Lord Cairns, who—on the

21st of June, 1870—had moved the second reading of Mr. Russell Gurney's Bill. Lord Coleridge's Bill was, upon the opposition of the Lord Chancellor, negatived without a division. It was, perhaps, scarcely to be expected that the House of Lords should lead the way in so just and beneficial a reform.

Lord Coleridge himself advised that the Bill should not again be presented to the House of Lords before it had been submitted to the House of Commons and obtained the decisive support of the Lower House. Accordingly, in the Session of 1878, Mr. Hibbert re-introduced the Bill in the House of Commons, but as he could not secure an earlier day for the second reading than the 24th of July, before which date the Government had taken the remainder of the Session, the Bill was lost for the time.

When Parliament was suddenly summoned in December, 1878, Mr. Hibbert was unavoidably absent from England, and could not introduce the Bill. At the re-assembling of Parliament after Christmas, it was found that every available private Members' day was filled up, and that it would therefore be impossible to secure a discussion on the Bill itself. Mr. Hibbert thereupon determined to take the sense of the House on a resolution in favour of this amendment of the law. But no opportunity for discussion could be found till July 18th, and was then lost, owing to the earnest appeal of the Government to be allowed to proceed with the Army Discipline Regulation Bill.

On Friday, the 6th of February, 1880, Mr. Hibbert again introduced his Bill, and the second reading was fixed for the 9th of June.

Before that date, however, was reached, the general election had taken place, with a result most gratifying to the promoters of this reform, inasmuch as it afforded satisfactory evidence of the decisive advance of public opinion on this question. The most careful estimate which it has been found possible to make, shows that there are in the present House of Commons nearly three hundred gentlemen known to be in favour of the amendment of the law in this direction, and not one hundred known opponents. As the opinions of the

majority of the Irish Members on this subject are, however, still unknown, and as the Bill applies to Ireland as well as to England, there is room for the active help and support of all residents in Irish constituencies.

Mr. Hibbert, who had now had charge of the Bill for three Sessions, with Mr. Osborne Morgan and Sir Charles Dilke, who had supported him by putting their names on the back of the Bill, having all taken office in the new administration, it was necessary to find a fresh Parliamentary leader.

Mr. Hinde Palmer, having now been returned for Lincoln, again undertook the work interrupted by his temporary absence from Parliament, and on the 24th of May introduced the Married Women's Property Acts Consolidation Bill, the other names on the back of the Bill being those of Sir Gabriel Goldney, Mr. Jacob Bright, and Mr. Watkin Williams.

The Bill was read a second time, *without a division*, on the 16th of June, the only speech directed against the principle of the measure being that of Mr. Warton, who, nevertheless, admitted that "it would be hopeless, in the present feeling of the House, to think of dividing against the Bill." But in spite of this success, and in spite of the decisive feeling of the House in favour of the measure, it went no further that year, Sir George Campbell having at once put down a notice of opposition, which, under the half-past twelve o'clock rule, and with the pressure of other business in that short Session, was fatal to its progress.

This year the measure was again introduced by Mr. Hinde Palmer—Sir Gabriel Goldney, Mr. Jacob Bright, and Mr. Horace Davey also putting their names on the Bill. It was read a second time on the 13th of January without a division, and referred to a Select Committee including the following gentlemen: Mr. Bellingham, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Davey, the Attorney-General (Sir H. James), Mr. Grantham, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hastings, Sir Henry Jackson, Sir Henry Holland, the Judge Advocate-General (Mr. Osborne Morgan), Mr. Hinde Palmer, Mr. Pemberton, Mr. Round, and Mr. Schreiber. On the sudden death of Sir Henry Jackson,



his place on the Committee was taken by Mr. Shaw Lefevre.

The Committee carefully considered the Bill, improved it materially in form, but cordially accepted and affirmed its main principle—that a woman's right to her own property ought to remain unaffected by her marriage.

They reported the Bill, as amended, to the House on the 10th of March.

The Bill, as it was returned to the House, is a really admirable measure of social reform. It will secure to a wife her own property, and make her liable upon her own contracts, and for her own wrongs committed. It will enable her to sue and be sued, and to acquire, hold, and dispose of property, both real and personal. Her property will remain her own, and she will retain the responsibilities incident thereto, just as before her marriage.

Marriage settlements will probably be as frequent as heretofore, but with this difference that they will more often be made after marriage, with a juster perception and fuller knowledge of the rights and interests of the parties concerned.

Yet this measure of justice so urgently desired by women, and by those men who wish to find in marriage a true companionship of equals, and not an enforced bond of master and slave, has been delayed for another year, not by the hostility or indifference of the House of Commons, the majority of which, including most of the Members of the present administration, is decisively in its favour, but by what it would not be unfair to call the veto of one man.

The present business arrangements of the House of Commons are so defective, that measures of the gravest importance are practically at the mercy of any one Member who chooses by giving notice of opposition, to bring them under the 12.30 rule. This rule at present applies to every stage of a Bill, however frequently and carefully it may have been considered, however decisive may be the opinion of the House in its favour, and however urgently it may be needed by the people at large.

So grave has been the abuse of this prerogative

during the past session, that the 12.30 rule itself, which has real value as a safeguard against legislation by surprise, is in some danger of being abolished together.

But even those who most deprecate the abolition of the rule, will admit that it must either be modified to some extent, or the House of Commons must so reform its business arrangements, that sittings after midnight shall no longer be necessary. That the business of the nation should be brought to a deadlock, and the caprice of a single individual should continue to stand in the way of great reforms, is intolerable.

In the case of the Married Women's Property Bill we have the spectacle of a reform which has been carefully considered by four successive Parliaments, and which has repeatedly been approved in the most decisive manner by the House of Commons, being effectually shelved for another session by the opposition of one man. Englishwomen and Irishwomen have, so far as the House of Commons is concerned, to thank Mr. Warton, M.P., for Bridport, for the continued injustice of the Property Laws under which they suffer.

As soon as the Bill was reported to the House on the 10th of March, Mr. Warton put down notice of opposition. This notice, under the unprecedented conditions of the session, which effectually precluded the consideration of the measure at any time to which the "block" would not apply, defeated the Bill for the time as effectually as though a majority of the House had voted against it.

Again and again it stood amongst the orders of the day only to be again postponed, till on the 15th of August, Mr. Hinde Palmer being hopeless of further progress this year, withdrew the Bill, giving notice of his intention to re-introduce it as early as possible next session.

There is every reason to hope that the Bill may successfully pass through all its stages in the House of Commons early next year. How the House of Lords will deal with it—it would be rash to venture to predict, but signs are not wanting to encourage the belief that the Peers have shared in the general advance of opinion on this subject, and that the experience of the working

of the Act of 1870, so far as it recognised the Property rights of married women, has dissipated their caution and timidity. If this be so, we may reasonably expect the Session of 1882, to be distinguished by the placing upon the Statute-book, with the full concurrence of both Houses, a Married Women's Property Act, which shall be at once comprehensive, wise and just.

E. W. ELMY,

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#### ART. III.—WOMEN INSPECTORS.

MRS. SURR has again proved most effectually the importance of having women in positions of authority on every school board, board of guardians, and as we have often urged, board of management of prisons in the country. Three years ago she persevered against many difficulties in the inquiry which brought to light the cruelties practised at the Upton House truant school, and now she has done equal service in calling public attention to the abuses of St. Paul's Industrial School. The patient supervision and observation of details which every lady necessarily uses in the management of her kitchen and nursery, gives her a training which men, except under exceptional circumstances, cannot attain. Sir William Harcourt has sent a letter of public recognition and thanks to Mrs. Surr, but says that two inspectors cannot properly inspect 200 industrial schools. The solution of the difficulty appears to be—appoint not only more inspectors, but let a part at least of those inspectors be women—Women are far more used to children than men are. We hear so frequently of the marvellous intuition of women in all cases of the care of children and the management of households, when the object of the speaker is to limit woman's sphere, that to omit to place them in positions of authority and responsibility as inspectors of our schools and prisons seems wilfully

to ignore the instruments which Nature herself has prepared for the purpose. But to secure efficiency these women inspectors should have equal salary with men similarly employed.

It is no disrespect to Mrs. Surr to say that we believe the same powers of observation and courage in carrying out inquiry and in ascertaining facts against the opposition and inertness of time-honoured Bumbledom are frequent among women. After Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., as President of the Local Government Board, had appointed Mrs. Nassau Senior Assistant Inspector of workhouses, her vigilant eye detected many mischiefs which had long lain unsuspected, and her keen intelligence suggested the remedies. A correspondent of the *Daily News* points out that it is only about two years since a lady was appointed Government Inspector of Schools at Madras, and the experiment was so successful that an assistant inspectress is soon to be appointed. In a discussion in the Paddington Board of Guardians last week various abuses were mentioned as existing in the union schools, which had only been discovered by Mrs. Charles, one of the guardians. Instances like this might be multiplied.

The *Times* of Nov. 17th, sneers at the part that school board women members took in the discussion on the St. Paul's Industrial Schools. "The public ear," it says, "catches the shrill accents of personal feeling, and we all wake up to the fact that the admission of women into public life is not to be followed instantaneously by the calmness and gentleness of manner which were anticipated. \* \* Woman's public influence has not taken from discussion the sting of personalities." If women have not eliminated personality from discussion, the *Times* cannot at least maintain it was unknown before they took part in them. We think the public may be fairly satisfied if the presence of women on these boards arouses a healthy spirit of inquiry and a keener sense of individual responsibility than before distinguished them.

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## REVIEWS.

*Massachusetts in the Woman Suffrage Movement.* BY HARRIET H. ROBINSON. Roberts, Brothers, Boston, U.S.

WE can heartily congratulate Miss Robinson on having produced not only a useful and instructive book of reference, but at the same time a very readable little volume which conveys much interesting information even for those who are not especially bound up with the question. The history of one particular State is far more manageable as a theme, than if she had attempted a wider area for her subject in traversing which the English reader, at least, becomes speedily confused. English readers will also have a special liking for the scene of her history. Massachusetts, though not possessing such liberal institutions as many of the newer states, retains many more of the characteristics of the mother country; her laws, whether bad or good have the stamp of the original; her society is marked by many similar features. If an Englishman looks for a second home, and for close ties of cousinship on the other side of the Atlantic, it is to the old Bay State that his attention first turns, and we may confidently predict that no long period will elapse between the extension of full political equality to women in New and Old England.

Massachusetts, though it has lagged behind in the work of reform was the first State in which a woman's voice was raised for equal laws. This woman was Abigail Adams, wife of the first President Adams, who in a letter to her husband, 1774, said, "In the new code of laws I desire you would remember the ladies, and be more generous and favourable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power in the hands of the husbands. Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation." And again, after the Constitution was framed, the women who had sacrificed so much for the country in the War of Independence

were forgotten, Mrs. Adams wrote again, "I cannot say that I think you are very generous to the ladies, for, while you are proclaiming peace and goodwill to all men, emancipating all nations, you insist upon retaining absolute power over your wives. But you must remember that absolute power, like most other things which are very bad, is most likely to be broken."

Mercy Otis Warren, a sister of James Otis, was the first woman who made use of the phrase "inherent rights," of all the citizens of the new republic. In 1818 Hannah Mather Crocker, grand-daughter of Cotton Mather, published a book called "Observations on the Rights of Women." In 1828 Frances Wright, an Englishwoman, lectured upon the "Moral and Political Questions of the Day, including Women's Rights," and after this the chain remains unbroken to the present day, for since the anti-slavery platform was the first where it was usual to find women speakers, the two questions of negro rights and women's rights became woven together, merging in one "Human rights" question, and the friends of the one, helped on the other. The list of Massachusetts writers on this subject is a long one. Margaret Fuller in "Woman in the Nineteenth Century," written in 1842, urged that man ought to give woman every privilege acquired for himself; election franchise, tenure of property, liberty to speak in public assemblies, and equal opportunities for education. Theodore Parker, Dr. Channing, Emerson, Alcott, and many others accepted these views.

The first Convention to discuss women's rights that was held in Massachusetts, was the fourth in order; it was held at Worcester in October, 1850. It arose out of an anti-slavery meeting held that same year in Boston, when an invitation was given from the speaker's desk to all those who felt interested in a plan for a National Women's Rights Convention to meet in the ante-room. Nine women responded, and went into the dark, dingy room to consult together. The speakers at the Convention included the old anti-slavery leaders—Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, C. C. Burleigh, Stephen S. Foster, Lucretia Mott, W. H. Channing, &c. The press, however, was generally adverse, only

four newspapers treated the subject with any sympathy, but the next year another Convention was held and messages of sympathy came from other parts of the Union, and from Harriet Martineau in England. Thenceforward the work of meetings went steadily onwards till 1860, when the first thunders of the war of rebellion were heard. During this great struggle the majority of the leaders, also, it must be remembered, anti-slavery leaders, thought it would be the wiser policy to give all the working energy to the cause of the slave. "Keep quiet, work for us," they said to the women, "help us to abolish slavery, and then we will work for you." When, at the conclusion of the war, the negro's right to the franchise was established, and the women who had toiled and suffered for his liberation still securely held in political slavery, it was time to begin the work of Conventions again. The name of the organisation was now changed to that of the American Equal Rights Association, a name which it retained till 1869, when it adopted the title of National Women's Suffrage Association. *The Woman's Journal* was commenced the same year. The American Women's Suffrage Association was established the same year, and the two carry on similar work in different directions. From time to time the Suffrage workers have become identified with one or other of the political parties in the State, but this is now felt to be a mistake.

William Claflin was the first Governor of Massachusetts who—in his address to the Legislature in 1871—officially recommended a change in the laws regarding suffrage and the property rights of women. Since his time nearly every Governor of the State has, in his annual message, recommended the subject to respectful consideration. In 1879 a General Suffrage Bill passed the Senate by a two-thirds' majority, but was lost in the Legislature. A School Committee Suffrage Bill was more fortunate, and became law that year, but a Municipal Suffrage Bill was lost this year by a vote of 122 noes to 76 ayes.

In 1876 the Association tried the experiment of printing a women's suffrage ticket, and having it distributed by women themselves at the polls—

It was a sight to be remembered, to see women "crowned with honour" pleading with the few coloured men who came to the polls, and asking men who were, perhaps, ten years ago slaves, now that the hour had struck for them, to give their votes to help the women who had so faithfully worked for them when they were in bonds. And so these women stood at the polls and saw the freed slave go by and vote, and the newly naturalized fellow citizen, and the blind man and the paralytic, and the boy of twenty-one, with his newly-fledged vote (*he* did not believe in Woman Suffrage), and the drunken man who did not know Hayes from Tilden, and the man who read his ballot upside down. All these voted for the men they wanted to represent them, but the women being neither coloured, nor foreign, nor blind, nor paralytic, nor newly-fledged, nor drunk, nor ignorant, but only women, could not vote for the men they wanted to represent them.

Although so little has been absolutely achieved in the suffrage question, the agitation has during the last thirty years, as with us in England, accomplished many side issues. The legislature has during this time enacted laws allowing women to vote in parishes and religious societies, declaring that women must become members of the Board of Trustees of the three State, Primary, and Reform Schools, of the State Workhouse, the State Almshouse at Tewkesbury, and the Board of Prison Commissioners; also that certain officers and managers of the Reformatory Prison at Sherborn "shall be women." Without legislation women now are school supervisors, overseers of the poor, trustees of public libraries, and members of the State Board of Education, and of the State Board of Health, Lunacy, and Charity. The change in the laws affecting married women is equally recent. Thirty years ago the English law obtained by which a wife could own nothing, and do nothing without the consent of her husband. To-day she can hold her own property, and make a will disposing of it. She can make contracts, enter into co-partnerships, invest her own earnings, and is responsible for her own debts. She can be executrix, administratrix, and guardian. If beaten by her husband, she can have him bound over to keep the peace for two years, and if he dies, whatever will he may leave, she has a claim to one-third of his personal property. In social, educational, and professional respects the changes have been even greater, but our space forbids us to dwell further upon them.

Not the least interesting portion of the book is the



appendix. In it there appears a summary of the old voting laws of Massachusetts:—Women were not excluded from voting from 1691 to 1780 (though probably none used the right). The clause in this Charter, relating to this matter, says:—"The Great and General Court shall consist of the Governor and Council (or assistants for the time being), and of such freeholders as shall be from time to time elected or deputed by the major part of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the respective towns or places who shall be present at such election." Women were excluded from voting, except for certain offices, in 1780, by the original Constitution, and in the Constitutional Convention of 1820 the word "male" was first put into the Constitution of the State in an amendment to define the qualifications of voters. In this Convention, a motion was made at three different times during the passage of the Act to strike out this word, but the motion was voted down. We may remember in this connection that it was only in the year 1832 that the word "male" was employed to qualify the new voters under our own Reform Act, and that the same year saw the first women's suffrage petition presented in Parliament.

*The Perfect Way in Diet*, by ANNA KINGSFORD, Doctor of Medicine of the Faculty of Paris. Kegan Paul.

This book is the translation, revised and enlarged of Mrs. Kingford's Thesis, which under the title "*De l'Alimentation Végétale chez l'Homme*" she presented in July, 1880, to the Faculté de Médecine of Paris on taking her degree, a Thesis which won for her very cordial congratulations from the Faculty. It is an able argument for vegetarianism, based upon the practice of many countries where animal food does not enter at all into the national diet, and where, nevertheless, men possess great endurance and muscular strength. While not absolutely convinced that a totally vegetarian diet is suitable to all constitutions in all climates, especially in our northern latitudes, there can be no doubt that far too much dependence is placed in England on flesh meat as an article of diet, and that a more general knowledge of cookery, and of the component parts of

foods will familiarise persons to extract nutrition from cereals, pulse, and fruits who are now dependent on beef and mutton. The denser a population becomes the less animal food it is able to obtain and the greater need to find out substitutes in the vegetable world. But we must not forget that vegetarianism carried to its full extent would exclude the use of eggs and milk, as well as of meat, and a large proportion of children are already suffering from having too little of this latter food. The atrocities that have attended, and still, unfortunately do attend, the slaughtering of animals is not necessary. In many places both in England and the Continent, it is done humanely as well as efficiently. Finally, vegetarians have to consider that if we do not provide against the natural increase of the animal world, they will multiply till they destroy our means of subsistence. The Hindoos, it is true do not kill their worn-out bullocks, but they have the resource of turning them out into the jungle to starve or be devoured by tigers. But while considering the extreme views advocated in this book impracticable, we have great sympathy with much that it brings forward.

*The Ethics of Love.* WALSALL W. HENRY ROBINSON; London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co.

This book is addressed especially to parents and guardians, and is an earnest effort to show how a nobler ideal of love and marriage would counteract evils which otherwise undermine society. Improvement in morality has not kept pace with improvement in education, and a grave responsibility rests upon the fathers and mothers of the future generation of sons and daughters that while the character is impressionable and habits are still unformed, self-control and unselfish impulses may be inculcated, and a greater regard to better physical and moral training; the writer concludes:—

As things are, our daughters are not educated for marriage, but for "engagements;" and our sons are not even educated for engagements. To have "a lover," to be engaged, is the acmé of nearly every girl's aspirations, sometimes mingled with fancy work philanthropy; and the means are balls, parties, theatres, &c.. All her

accomplishments, arts, manners, and devices are so ordered as to subserve this great end. Household duties, useful knowledge, management of her own health and her children's, to say nothing of a wife's responsibilities, these are matters entirely omitted from her training. Both for daughters and sons marriage should be boldly recognised as the greatest event of life for which the carefullest training is necessary.

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## RECORD OF EVENTS.

### LONDON UNIVERSITY.

#### B.A. AND B.SC. HONOURS:

IN the honours Examinations Mrs. Bryant obtained the first place in Moral Science, and Miss Eves in Botany, both being qualified for the respective Scholarships in these subjects.

Mrs. Bryant has also second class honours in Mathematics and Miss Eves in Physiology; the latter being highest on the Physiology list.

Miss Rickett obtained the second places both in French and German, with the prize in French. Miss Maclean takes second-class honours in Classics, Miss Avelay first-class in French, and second-class in German, Miss Brown first-class in French and third-class in German.

#### UNIVERSITIES EXECUTIVE COMMISSION.

On December 3rd deputations from the General Council of the University of Edinburgh and the Curators and General Council of the University of St. Andrews waited upon Lord Rosebery, Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, and the Lord Advocate, M.P., in Parliament Square, Edinburgh, with the view of urging upon them, as members of the Government, the importance of the appointment of a Universities' (Sootand) Executive Commission. There was a large attendance of professors and others from both Universities. Among the subjects brought forward by members of the deputation was the education

of women. Principal Tulloch, in introducing the deputation from St. Andrew's, said, they were nearly unanimous in recognising that some commencement should be made in the work of University education for women. Principal SHAIRP, St. Andrew's, was also in favour of the University education of women, and would concede everything except the teaching of men and women in the same class. Professor MASSON, Edinburgh, urged the claims of women to an equal graduation with men. In the course of his reply Lord Rosebery referred this question of the education of women, along with other matters for the consideration of the Commission, if it should be appointed, which appears doubtful.

THE TRAINING COLLEGE, SKINNER STREET, BISHOPSGATE STREET, E.C.

There are, at present, twenty-eight students in the Upper and eight in the Lower Division of this College. Under certain conditions, which may be obtained from the Principal, more students can be received in both divisions in January next. Students in the Upper Division are preparing to pass the Cambridge Teachers' Certificate, those in the Lower the Higher Cambridge Examination in June 1882.

KINDERGARTEN TRAINING COLLEGE, TAVISTOCK PLACE, W.C.

Miss Lawrence, who was trained in Dr. Köhler's Institute at Gotha, has since studied at Cambridge and has been resident lecturer at Newnham Hall, has been appointed the Principal of the above College. She will enter on her duties next term, and will be assisted by Miss Walenn, who was trained by Mme. de Portugall, at Geneva. Intending students should apply to the Honorary Secretary, Miss Hart, 86, Hamilton Terrace, N.W.

WOMEN AS POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

LONDON.—A drawing-room meeting was held on November 26th, at the house of Mrs. Shaen, Kensington Square, W., to discuss the objects of the Society for promoting the return of women as Poor Law Guardians,

Mr. William Shaen presided. Letters sympathising with the object of the meeting were read from Lady Harborton, the Right Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P., Mr. H. Richards, M.P., and many others. Mr. Stansfeld wrote—"I need hardly assure you of my complete sympathy with the objects of the Society for promoting the election of women as Poor Law Guardians. My views on all such questions become only more determined and pronounced as time goes on. Let your Society persist, and it cannot fail to do good work and to prosper, for it has taken in hand, not only a good but a winning cause." Miss Müller, who proposed the first resolution said, that the duties of guardians were mainly the administration of things of which women had special knowledge. Women Guardians had already done much to abolish out-door relief. The subject of clothing for women and children, and the quality and quantity of material, came within the sphere of women. The very presence of ladies was good for the rough women and children found in pauper institutions. As to the capabilities of women, it should be remembered, that the honour of exposing the abuses in connection with St. Paul's Industrial Schools, belonged to a woman, Mrs. Surr, who had also had the keenness of vision to see the abuses in Upton House. Men of education and influence did not readily fall into this poor law work, but there were many women of education who had leisure for it. The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Rev. Stewart Headlam, Mrs. Charles (Paddington), The Rev. C. Darby Reade (Chairman of Kensington Board) who reminded the meeting that his Board had been the first to elect a lady, Mrs. Chant, Miss Biggs, and Mr. Chamberlain.

On December 7th, another drawing-room meeting took place at the house of Mrs. Turner, 1, Bedford Gardens, Clapham. The Rev. J. Doxsey took the chair, and a resolution was passed to bring forward a woman as guardian at the next election in Lambeth.

LEEDS.—A drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Edward Walker's, at which an interesting feature was the attendance of the Chairman of the Leeds Poor Law

Board, who, on behalf of the Board of Guardians, gave an invitation to any ladies present to attend the next meeting of the Board, in order to see how the business is conducted. Two ladies accepted the invitation and went to the meeting. This gentleman is particularly anxious to have women on the Board. As one result of this meeting, a Public Conference was held on December 8th, in the Mayor's Rooms, his worship taking the chair. The Conference was invited by Mrs. Barran, Mr. J. Rawlinson Ford, Mrs. Luccock, Mrs. S. A. Marshall, and Mrs. Whitney.

Letters of sympathy were read from Mr. Ikin, Mrs. Downing-Shearer, Mrs. McIlquham, the Rt. Hon. Jas. Stansfeld and others. The MAYOR said he was of opinion that all restrictions to the qualification of women for public life should be removed, and thus both men and women would be left to take the part in which they were best fitted to appear. Miss CARBUTT said politics had nothing whatever to do with this question, and would like to find one Conservative and one Liberal woman to come forward for Leeds. Mrs. WHITING pointed out that as members of Boards of Guardians women would be of great assistance in regulating the diet and the arrangements of the household. Mr. BARREN, M.P., was of opinion that the influence of women guardians would be very great on the moral tone of the people, and on that ground would strongly urge that in Leeds they should try to elect two women for this position. He hoped, if they were successful, it would lead to future legislation on the subject of the abuses practised towards women. The REV. C. HARGROVE, Mr. STEPHENS, Mr. JOSEPH LUPTON, Mr. SIMPSON, (a guardian), Mr. WILKINSON, Mrs. S. A. MARSHALL, and Miss HEATON also spoke in favour of the measure.

A committee to carry this resolution into effect was appointed, consisting of Mrs. Barran, Mrs. Whiting, Mrs. Edward Walker, Mrs. Luccock, Mrs. Scatcherd, Mrs. S. Marshall, Miss Tatham, Miss Carbutt Miss Gertrude Wilson, Miss Frost, Mr. R. Ford, Mr. John Lupton, Mr. Latchmore, Mr. Battle, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Joseph Lupton, with power to add to their number.

## THE DEMONSTRATION IN BRADFORD.

The sixth of the great demonstrations of women in favour of the Suffrage was held in Bradford, on November 22nd, in St. George's Hall. Upwards of three thousand women assembled. In preparation for the great meeting, a preliminary conference was held on November 2nd, and district meetings for men and women were held at Allerton, Thornton, Shipley, Eccleshill, Wyke, Queensbury, and in five districts of Bradford itself.

The chair was occupied by Mrs. Duncan McLaren, and the meeting was addressed by Mrs. Alfred Osler, Miss Carbutt, Miss Lucy Wilson, Mrs. William Clark, Miss Downing, Miss Jane E. Cobden, Miss Becker, Dr. Edith Pechey, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Scatcherd, Mrs. McIlquham, and Mrs. W. P. Byles. No more important service to the cause of women's suffrage has ever been rendered by a single speech than by Mrs. McLaren's introductory address. She pleaded for it, not only on the ground of right, but on that of expediency and humanity.

She reminded her hearers that this would not be the first occasion on which St. George's Hall had been filled by women. She reminded them that between 4,000 and 5,000 women had assembled on May 24th, 1869, and filled this great hall to overflowing, for the purpose of congratulating Edward Miall, the great Non-conformist, on his successful contest for the representation of this borough? They did not come merely with womanly smiles of congratulation—no, they came to show by their works how the great heart of woman could appreciate the intellect, the power, and the principles which characterise such men as Edward Miall. They brought to that meeting gifts which represented £600, collected in pence, shillings, and pounds, the highest subscription being £10. You will see what a labour of love that was; but the man was worthy of it. It was not in the hour of success that the women of Bradford stepped forth in that contest; it was in the dark hour of defeat; and I have been repeatedly told that success at last was largely due to the efforts of the women when they were roused to the seriousness of that contest. I like to recall this to your memory, you men of Bradford, and to tell the younger men and women of it, for they who are six-and-twenty now were only boys and girls then. As our agitation has nothing to do with party, I should hesitate to introduce any question of party politics were it not to answer that most unjust objection which is so often made an excuse for holding aloof from our cause, viz., that if women had the Parliamentary franchise they would be led by clerical influence in the exercise of it, and would

thus strengthen the Conservative interest. Let me ask, did those 5,000 women of Bradford help the Conservative cause? Were those women led by the clergy? Why, all the powers of Church and State would gladly have combined to prevent Edward Miall from taking his seat in the House of Commons. Yet he was carried triumphantly there to proclaim those great truths of religious freedom and equality so dear to his heart, by the joint efforts of the men and women of Bradford. I saw that good man laid in his grave on the 5th of May of this year, and was comforted by the thought that another ministering spirit had gone to the higher life, to whom great power might be given to help on the work in which he had been so faithful here; and—I speak it reverently—it may be that grateful memories of earthly service are not extinguished in that higher life, and that his veiled presence may be amongst us here to-night, to cheer us in our hard fight. We can, however, draw help from him, for though dead he yet speaketh in words uttered by him at that great meeting, to those 5,000 women. They reveal that he saw the suffrage must be granted to women in that development of progress which is inevitable. I wish I could quote them in full, for they are very beautiful. He told them that women see more quickly, more clearly, and more purely than men in reference to all great moral principles; he showed what politics ought to be if worthy to be pursued at all, and that they are what women could thoroughly understand and embrace. "But," he said, "it has been the fashion of man to degrade woman by lording it over her, and, of course, man, to justify himself in doing this, has assumed that the political sphere is a sphere altogether apart from that in which woman ought to move. . . . Happy will be the day in England, happy will be the day throughout the world, when woman takes her real and proper position, when she stands in that respect, as in others, the helpmate of man." And then he adds, with reference to politics, "Women of Bradford, take your part." Well, my friends, you are here following out that emphatic advice. But you never can act upon it thoroughly until you can make your wishes known in the House of Commons by means of the franchise.

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We are here to-night in the spirit of self-sacrifice. We have had our sorrows in working on this question. We are here because we know there are on our statute books unjust laws which subject many women to sorrow and suffering; and the fact that we have worked our way to such a platform proves that women are capable of holding a political position and ought to have a voice in our national affairs. We cannot rest contented under the consciousness of injustice, because there are women who accept it as the natural condition of woman. We feel the sadness and deep tenderness of these lines of one of our sweetest poets—

Meek Teuton woman! Thou hast borne too long  
The chain, to feel its weight or own its wrong.

We feel it our duty to arouse our sex everywhere to a sense of the high destiny which was intended for woman as well as for man, even in this life. The inspiration for this work has come from a higher



source than ourselves, and we have had often to feel that God does not leave His children to fight their battles alone. He helps us often by unconscious service. Your member, Alfred Illingworth, always voted for us when he was formerly in the House of Commons, and I trust he will do so again (cheers). Though Wm. Edward Forster has not yet done so, he has lifted us up a very high step, when in his Educational Bill he gave women not only the power to vote for members of the school board, but to sit on school boards themselves. Every day we see the value of that legislative act, and we thank him for it. Mr. Forster saw that half the children who were to be educated at the board schools were girls, and half the teachers would be women, and that it was in accordance with reason and common-sense that women should sit on school boards in the interest of those girls and their teachers. We hope he will be able yet to see that, as half the nation is composed of women and girls, it must be equally just and equally needful that the influence of women's votes should be brought to bear upon legislation connected with their interests in the House of Commons. When Mr. Forster passed his Education Bill, he said a new chapter in Christianity had been opened. I believe by the removal of the political disabilities of women he could truthfully repeat the same words, for a great stride in Christian civilisation would be made by such an act. It would be a grand recognition of moral power, of which we have seen cheering signs of late. We have great faith in the success of our work, for we see women everywhere rising up to claim a higher position. My friends, if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground unobserved by the All-seeing Eye, do you think the perpetration or the enactment of unrighteous laws can escape Its ken? The unheeded sufferings of thousands of women, the lost condition of some, the silent prayers of others, the moral courage and faithful work of those who have been endowed with powers to combat great moral evils, these are all noted and held in remembrance by Him who came to undo the heavy burden of sin and of sorrow, and I feel as though I could only close my remarks by encouraging both workers and sufferers in those beautiful lines of Mrs. Pfeiffer:—

I see the Bridegroom, He, the Lord, the Son,  
Step forth and lead ye forward, one by one;  
I see Him take each weary, toil-worn hand,  
And guide ye shrinking to the higher stand.

On November 23rd, a conference of ladies and gentlemen was held in the Bradford Mechanics Institute, which resulted in the formation of an influential Local Committee.

MEETINGS have been also held in the Temperance Hall, Cirencester, on December 7th, the Rev. Henry Austin in the chair. In the Temperance Hall, Hyde, on December 5th, and in the Philharmonic Hall, Tewkesbury, on December 9th, Mr. J. R. Yorke, M.P., presiding.

ELECTION COMMISSION EXPENSES. — The *Suffrage*

*Journal* calls attention to the dispute between the University of Oxford and the Oxford Board of Guardians, as regards their liability to share in the election rate. The commission expenses amount to one shilling in the pound, to be levied out of the Oxford poor rate, of which the University pays one-third; but the University now declines to pay the usual third, saying, "This is a fine incurred by the people who constitute the other two-thirds, for the abuse of a franchise which they possess, and which the University does not share." The same argument should in equity excuse the women ratepayers from paying the fine which has been incurred by people who abused a franchise which the women did not possess.

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## FOREIGN NOTES AND NEWS.

### FRANCE.

M. PAUL BERT, the French Minister of Education, made a striking remark when lately he received Madame Jules Favre and Madame Pécaut, the Directors of the Normal Schools for Governesses. "When a boy was taught (said the Minister) an educated man was produced, but when a girl was taught a whole family was educated." M. Bert promised to make the improvement of the arrangements for the education of girls a subject of special care and attention. He admitted that, alike as regards the standard of education considered sufficient for girls, and the salaries paid to the female teachers—for in many departments no female teachers received more than £36 a year—a crying inequality prevailed. "This inequality (he added) must be put an end to."

ANOTHER LADY DOCTOR.—A lady, Madame Perret, lately maintained successfully her thesis before the Faculty of Medicine for Paris. Madame Perret is thirty-two years of age; she is married, and the mother of a family. It is reported that she took the resolution of devoting herself to Medicine during a long and painful illness in which she was attended and cured by an American lady doctor. Madame Perret is the fourth French lady who has obtained her diploma; the first was Madame Brès, the second Madame Ribard, the third Madame Guénot. Madame Perret is the wife of M. Raymond, the well-known comic actor of the Palais Royal.

The Medical profession hitherto has not given any great encouragement to women to follow the course of study of the Faculty; they

were admitted, but no facilities were given them; but next year, by a decision of the Council of Surveillance of Hospitals, female students will be admitted to attend the external practice of the Hospitals.—*Le Droit des Femmes.*

ENGLISH PRINCESSES AND ANTI-VIVISECTION.—Dr. Cyon, who attacks the Anti-Vivisectionists as a "fanatical English sect," declares that the movement in Prussia and Saxony has only been got up by English Princesses. We consider it one of the greatest compliments to the humanity of our countrywomen.

In the Electrical Exhibition at Paris, Mdlle. Gloesener, of Belgium, and Miss E. Gray, United States, received gold medals; Mme. Bonis, and Madame Seguy, France, silver Medals.

AMONG the ambulance workers sent to Tunis is a courageous woman, Mdlle. Thierry, who distinguished herself during the siege of Paris. She dresses like a *cantinière*, and wears sixteen medals.

At the *Concours Regional* of Annecy, a woman, Mdlle. Coche, of Saint Ismier (Isère) received a prize for poultry keeping.

MDLLE. CAROLINE KLEINHAUS, who took part in the late Geographical Congress at Venice, has been promoted to be an Officer of Public Instruction.

THE Society of Acclimatization has accorded medals to Mdlle. Marie Tixier and Mesdames Courtois and Simon.

#### BELGIUM.

MADAME MARIA VAN ACKERE (born Doolaege), a Belgian novelist, living at Dixmude, has received the Cross of Chevalier of the Order of Leopold, the Belgian Legion of Honour.

#### ITALY.

A NEWSPAPER has been commenced at Naples under the title *L'Umanitario*. The Editor is Madame Ernest Napollon. The paper intends to defend "the rights of all the oppressed, including women."

#### SWITZERLAND.

THE Canton of Zurich has lately established a new organisation for registering midwives. Every commune containing from 800 to 1200 souls will have the right to elect one. Wherever an assembly of women have had the custom of choosing this important official themselves, this right will be reserved to them, and elsewhere the Sanitary Commissioner will do it. In many of the Zurich communes the women unite in public assembly to choose the midwife, and the Government does very wisely in not meddling with this prerogative.

#### GERMANY.

WOMEN'S FIRE BRIGADE.—The little town of Flotzingen (Wurtemberg) has a brigade of forty-two women water carriers, belonging to the fire department. They were completely equipped for work (the tin waterpails provided by them at their own cost), arranged in their best Sunday costumes, and drawn up in line to go through a regular drill and sham fire before the district inspector, who could not but express himself highly satisfied. The brigade is divided into four squads, each squad commanded by a "female corporal,"

who keeps the roll—the rank and file having the privilege of electing said corporals in the town hall.

GREECE.

THE first Kindergarten in Athens has just been established by two pupils of Frau von Marenholtz-Bülow, Fröbel's most enthusiastic follower. The greatest interest is taken in the movement by the Queen of Greece and the Minister of Education. The Turkish Government, too, has also sent two ladies to Dresden to receive instructions from Baroness von Bülow in order to establish Kindergartens in Constantinople.

AMERICA.

The Supreme Court of Massachusetts lately rejected the application of Miss Lelia Robinson to be admitted to the bar. Miss Robinson is a graduate of Boston University, and took good rank in her class. Her exclusion is solely on the ground of her sex. This action is in accordance with that which has greeted women in every attempt they have made to avail themselves of new fields of occupation. They succeed always, sometimes after long trial. But they always succeed in the end. They will in this case. It is only a question of time.

Miss Robinson expresses herself as being entirely satisfied that the decision was based solely upon legal grounds, and that no feeling of prejudice was allowed to bias it.

Massachusetts law now says that "any person practising law in any other State, who has been regularly admitted to the bar, and who has a certificate of good moral character and professional qualifications, shall have a right to practice law in this State." Under this provision, a woman lawyer in another state could not be excluded from practice in Massachusetts. But the Legislature will be called upon to enact a law which will meet and cover the application of Miss Robinson, and it will do it; if not this year, it will some other year. "Ever the right comes uppermost."—*Woman's Journal*.

IN the death of Stephen S. Foster the Americans have lost another of the grand old army of abolitionists who, with uncompromising steadfastness held up the standard of liberty when the cause seemed hopeless. When negro slavery was no more, Mr. Foster gave his help and sympathy to the women who were trying to remove the disabilities of their own sex.

MR. HENRY FAY DURANT, an eminent American lawyer, who founded Wellesley College for Women in the State of Massachusetts, died on the 3rd October. This college, which is designed for the higher education of women, was built and equipped at an expenditure of a million dollars, and since it was opened, six years ago, has cost its founder not less than fifty thousand dollars a year. All the professors are ladies, and the course of study is of the most comprehensive character. The pupils in the college at present number 432.

If financial prosperity is a sign of success, the women doctors of America have thoroughly proved their case. The *Ægis* of Cincinnati says:—The female doctors have been heard from regarding their incomes. Of 166 who have graduated from the *Womans'*

Medical College of Pennsylvania, the incomes average 4,907,30 dols.; seven had a practice of over 10,000 dols. a year each, and four over 15,000 dols. Others have amassed fortunes and have retired from practice. Women are not to be despised in the professions.

HARPER'S WEEKLY says that ladies are coming to the front as bankers. Mrs. N. C. Williams is President of the State National Bank, Raleigh, North Carolina; Miss Jennie Coombs is cashier of Boun and Coombs' bank, at Middleville, Michigan; Miss Sarah F. Dick is cashier of the First National Bank of Huntington, Indiana; Miss A. M. King is cashier of the banking house of Springer and Noyes, White Cloud, Kansas, and Mrs. M. H. Cowden carries on a banking business in her own name at Forest Hill, California.

WOMEN AND THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.—The time will come when the Universalist Church will count among its chief honours that it was the first to lead the way in recognizing woman's fitness for the work of preacher and pastor, the first to admit woman to full and equal privileges with men in the theological schools, and the first to adopt the policy of ordaining women to the ministry.

It is now some twenty years since a woman first applied for admission to a Universalist theological school, and received in reply the following letter from Dr. Ebenezer Fisher, then President of the St. Lawrence University:—

"The faculty will receive and treat you precisely as they would treat any other student. My own judgment is that it is not expedient for women to become preachers, but I consider it purely a question of expediency and not at all of right. The right I cannot question."

Some thirty licensed women preachers, most of whom have been regularly ordained and settled over parishes, doing good and faithful work in our cause, is the result of the encouraging words which Dr. Fisher wrote. Rev. Mary Thomas Clark, of Richmond, Ind., is a regularly licensed minister in the Universalist Church, and is the only minister of that Church in the State who has preached every Sabbath during this long summer of extreme heat. She has frequently preached twice in the day, and travelled five miles from one appointment to another.—*Western Woman's Journal*.

THREE ladies have secured offices in the Washington Territory Legislature: Miss Louisa McMillan, Engrossing Clerk of the Council, Miss C. Newton, Enrolling Clerk of the House, and Miss Lizzie Ferry, Engrossing Clerk of the House.

Of the 1,317 male teachers in the public schools of Maryland, 232 are coloured men, and of the 1,775 female teachers 157 are coloured women.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

CONFERRING OF UNIVERSITY DEGREES ON WOMEN.—We learn from the *Lyttelton Times* that the ceremony of conferring the degrees obtained by candidates in the last University examination, took place at Christchurch, on August 15th, in the Provincial Council Chamber. As on a former occasion—the last public ceremony of the kind being on June 29, 1880—a temporary dais had been erected at the upper end of the hall, and the body of the build-

ing had been liberally furnished with seats, the attendance on the part of the public being greater than on the before-mentioned occasion. Two rows of chairs near the dais had been reserved for the use of those who were more especially interested in the proceedings; and, as the lady members of the University entered the building, they were loudly cheered. The gallery was occupied by undergraduates, who lost no opportunity of evincing their pleasure. The chair was taken shortly after noon by Mr. H. J. Tancred, the Chancellor of the University; and the members of the professorial staff occupied seats on the platform, together with the Very Rev. the Dean and members of the Board of Governors of the Canterbury College.

Mr. W. M. MASKELL then read the result of the University work during the year 1880. The list of students admitted to matriculation numbered thirty, among whom were the following eight ladies:—Catherine Colebrook, Auckland; Janet Gilmer, Auckland; Caroline Agnes Jervis, Auckland; Emilia Menzies, Otago; Ada Pike, Canterbury; Helen Simpson, Auckland; Louisa Melville Will, Otago; Jessie Wilson, Auckland.

Eight candidates obtained junior scholarships, among whom were Edith Howitt Searle, Canterbury; Mary Montgomery, Otago.

Ten passed the first examination for the B.A. degree, among whom is Caroline Freeman, University of Otago.

Among sixteen who passed the final examination for the B.A. degree, we find Margaret Lilian Florence Edger, Canterbury College. This lady also obtained one of the five Senior Scholarships awarded.

Four candidates passed the examination for Honours, among whom Helen Connon, Canterbury College, obtained a first-class in languages and literature.

Professor HASLAM then presented the candidates *seriatim* to the Chancellor for the admission to the degree of B.A., and in so doing, he recounted their successes. He said Miss Margaret Lilian Florence Edger, in 1878, gained a Junior University Scholarship; in 1879, a Senior University Scholarship in mathematics; and in 1880, an exhibition in mathematics at Canterbury College, and a Senior University Scholarship in English and French.

As the CHANCELLOR invested each candidate with the hood, he said: "By the authority of the Senate I admit you to the degree of Bachelor of Arts of the University of New Zealand," and then delivered the diploma. Each graduate was loudly cheered, the young lady being specially favoured by the occupants of the gallery.

Professor HASLAM then said: "Mr. Chancellor, I have to present to you for admission to the degree of Master of Arts Miss Helen Connon and Mr. James Ronaldson Thornton. Miss Helen Connon gained an Exhibition at Canterbury College in 1879, was admitted to the degree of B.A. in 1880, and gained first-class in Latin and English in the University Honours Examination for the present year. I may add that I believe Miss Connon will be the first female student to receive the degree of M.A. from an English University."

After the presentation of the two gentlemen the Chancellor conferred the degree of M.A. on the candidates, using the same formula (*mutatis mutandis*) as before. The cheers from the gallery

were most enthusiastic as the first lady M.A. of any British University retired from the dais.

The CHANCELLOR, in congratulating those who had degrees conferred upon them, said their success was a matter of congratulation to the University itself, as giving it a new *status* in the country. As soon as thirty students are admitted to a degree, and those students have arrived at the second year's standing, the Convocation is then constituted, and consequently the organisation of the Senate will be complete, and the government of the University will be in its own hands. The University will then become a self-governing body, and that is a consummation we had all looked forward to with rejoicing. Those who had stood the test in the late examination had stood a test which probably very few Universities impose. The examiners are mostly gentlemen in England, who have the highest standing in their several departments. But the peculiarity of our position in respect to the examiners is that they have no knowledge whatever of the course of study pursued, and the greater part of our examination is upon the subjects, independently of books. There are certain books prescribed from which work is performed, but as a rule the examination is on a subject without any reference to a particular book. Therefore the decision of these gentlemen is upon the real knowledge acquired, and not upon what is called the "cramming" of books. The examiners have all spoken in the highest terms of the proficiency which the examination discloses.

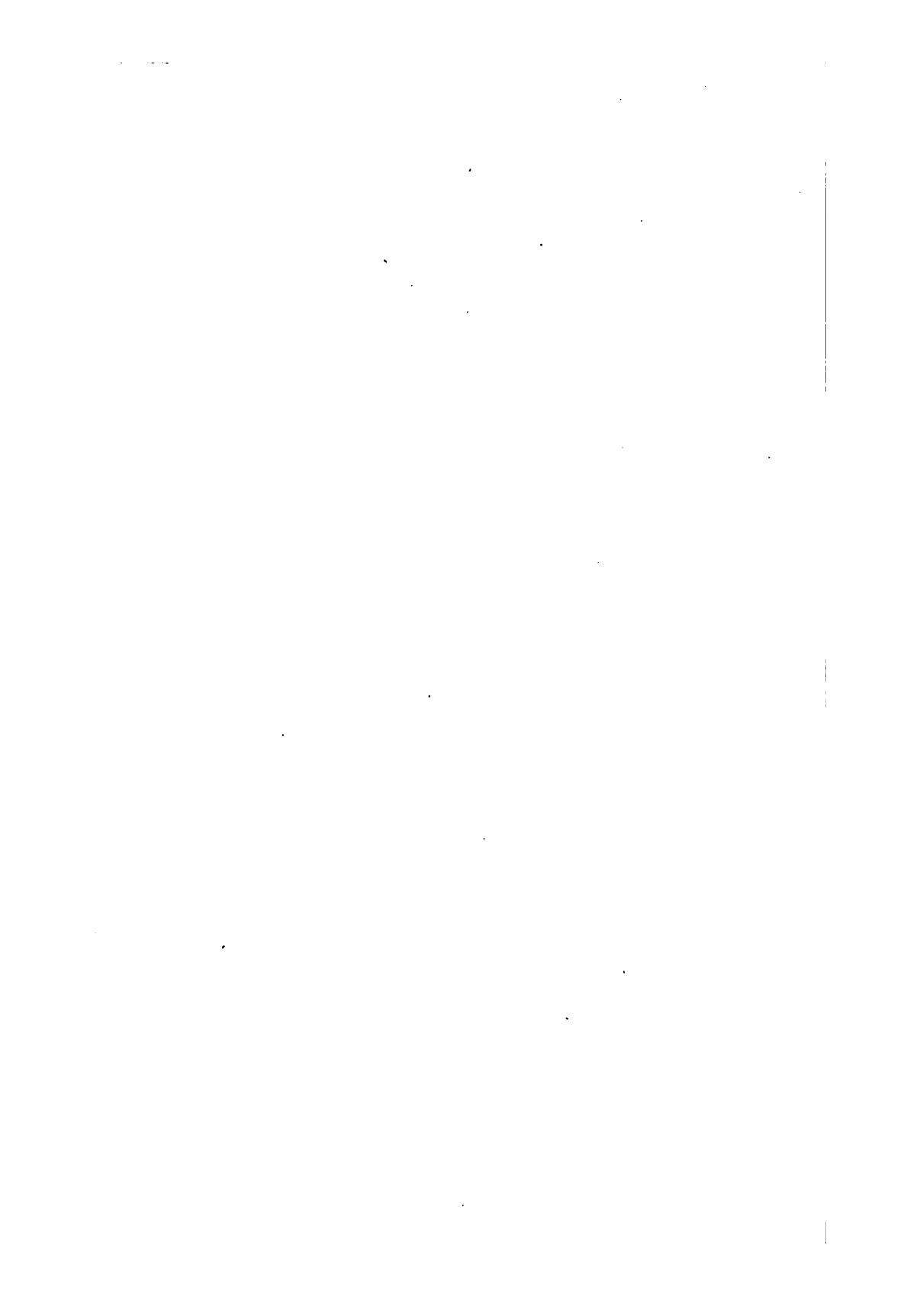
At the conclusion of the Chancellor's address, three cheers were given for the Chancellor and the profession, and the proceedings terminated.

#### CHINA.

"WHILST at Tientsin I called on Miss Howard, M.D., the lady doctor who so successfully treated Lady Li, the wife of the Viceroy Li Hung Chang. I found her exceedingly pleasant, and she invited me to be present at the opening of her hospital for female patients, on the 8th inst. This was a grand affair. Li Hung Chang, attended by many mandarins, came to take part in the ceremony. The Hon. A. Angele, the American Minister, was passing through Tientsin on his way home, and was asked to say a few words on the occasion. It was a curious coincidence that he had been President of the University in America where Miss Howard had studied, and he himself had signed her diploma, this made it exceedingly interesting to him, and he did not fail to allude to it in his speech. Ladies did *not* take part in the ceremony, but Miss Howard came into the reception hall and, by an efficient interpreter, expressed to Li Hung Chang her thanks for the support he and Lady Li were giving to her undertaking. Li stood whilst Miss Howard was there. She retired to her own apartments, and Dr. Mackenzie, of the London Mission, did the honours of the reception. After we had walked round, we returned and partook of tea, coffee, cakes, &c., and shortly afterwards Li retired, and an interesting ceremony came to an end."—Letter from Mr. C. Thorne, Chefoo, October 14th.









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